



See page 2 for Year of the NCO articles.

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for June 17, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



Road closure in the Aberdeen Area: Darlington Avenue

On or about June 15 for approximately two weeks Darlington Avenue, located between Maryland Boulevard and Boothby Hill Avenue, will close to through traffic 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. Detour signage will be posted. Darlington Avenue will reopen each day at 3:30 p.m. and will close the next morning 7 a.m.

To allow for traffic flow, steel plates will be placed over the excavation.

Continued patience and attention to safety as APG transforms for the future is appreciated. For more information, call Roy Joseph, Directorate of Public Works, 410-306-1160.

DES changes hours at gates

The operational hours of the Wise Road Gate have been temporarily extended to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Wise Road Gate is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

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BRAC rehearsal proves valuable tool for planners Army Chief of Staff participates in APG BRAC ROC drill

Story by
ROBERT DIMICHELL
RDECOM

"It's about more than BRAC [base realignment and closure]," summarized Col. Andrew B. Nelson, Aberdeen Proving Ground's deputy garrison commander for Transformation, after more than 200 Army leaders and planners spent May 29 reviewing the details of transferring thousands of people and jobs into and out of the installation as part of its transformation.

The event, the Rehearsal of Concept, or ROC, synchronization drill, was held in order to spot potential challenges and develop solutions so that the installation's transformation could stay on target.

"There are many other Army transformation initiatives that

are evident here at the proving ground — other tenants that already exist here are growing, their mission sets are increasing because of the overseas contingency operations," Nelson said. "The products and the services of our current tenants here are more in demand and their programs are being accelerated. So, we have to look, not only at what's happening with BRAC, we have to look full-encompassing on the entire transformation that happens at Aberdeen Proving Ground."

The rehearsal of concept was led by the U.S. Army Materiel Command and hosted by Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. Participants included Army Chief of

Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr., Army Chief of Staff; Lt. Gen. James H. Pillsbury, deputy commanding general of AMC; Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, commanding general of the Installation Management Command and Lt. Gen. James D. Thurman, the Army staff's G-3/5/7.

Complementing the leaders was a beneficial process that helped them quickly identify and tackle problems, according to Nelson.

"The ROC drill has provided a forcing function to bring to the table the entire multitude of issues surrounding the transformation of Aberdeen Proving Ground, BRAC-related and non-BRAC-related," he said.

The change is already well underway with the Route 715 entrance gate complete, \$700 million in construction

contracts awarded and construction sites dotting the installation. In addition, more than 450 new employees from the BRAC process have already moved in with 900 more expected this year.

"And, that's allowing them to establish mission capability at the proving ground that will be their forward platform working here so systems can be operating, missions can be occurring and products developed, instead of waiting for that capability to be turned off at their losing installation," Nelson explained.

Pillsbury cited personnel issues as the leadership's number one concern.

"We tackled several heavy issues today—personnel and the hiring process, being one, IT [information technology]

See ROC, page 5

Safety Center introduces Web site dedicated to NCOs

USACR/SC

During June's National Safety Month the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center is marking the observation by honoring noncommissioned officers for their commitment to keeping Soldiers safe.

"National Safety Month is a great opportunity for all of us to pause in our activities and ask ourselves how we can be safer in everything we do," said Brig. Gen. William T. Wolf, director of Army Safety and commander of USACR/SC. "This also provides us an excellent opportunity to show the invaluable service our noncommissioned officers provide in looking out for Soldiers' well-being."

Throughout his career, Wolf said he has had many remarkable leaders at every level who have gone above and beyond to stay engaged with their Soldiers to ensure their safety and well-being but there is one NCO whose engagement with his Soldiers really made a difference.

"I've have been very fortunate to work with many great noncommissioned officers over my career. But the one NCO who has made a lasting impact on shifting the safety

climate and culture across our Army is Command Sergeant Major Tod Glidewell, the first command sergeant major for the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center," Wolf said.

"Tod's genuine concern and love for Soldiers and his unwavering commitment to educating leaders and Soldiers on risk mitigation is unrivaled. He has left an indelible mark on me and every Soldier he has encountered across the force."

Engaged NCOs like Glidewell are vital to the safety of the Army Family, Wolf said.

To celebrate the important role NCOs play in keeping Soldiers safe, the USACR/Safety Center has launched a Web site dedicated to NCOs and their role in preserving the force.

The site will feature short video vignettes of NCOs talking about what they do or have done to keep their Soldiers safe and/or what it means to them to be an NCO in today's Army.

"What this Web site illustrates is that our NCOs are frequently the first line of defense when it comes to protecting our Soldiers from an accident," Wolf said.

"They recognize that an important part of their job is caring for the welfare of Soldiers and their Families."

During National Safety Month and throughout the summer, officials at the USACR/SC are encouraging leaders at all levels to visit the new NCO site and, while there, click into the Safe Summer 2009 campaign Web site. Clicking on the Safe Summer 2009 logo at <https://safety.army.mil> opens a virtual tool box full of summer safety related videos, articles and posters that will help all Soldiers keep themselves, their buddies and their Families safe.

"We must continually remind Soldiers of the increased hazards associated with their off-duty, summer activities and remain engaged throughout this high-risk summer season," Wolf said. "Stay safe, have fun and continue to do your part to protect our band of brothers and sisters this summer and always."

For more information about how to continue to stay safe this summer, National Safety Month or the new NCO of the Year micro Web page, visit <https://safety.army.mil>.



Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Via, commanding general, CECOM Life Cycle Management Command, holds a town hall meeting for advanced party Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, or Army Team C4ISR, personnel at Aberdeen Proving Ground May 28.

Commander holds Town Hall meeting for Forward personnel

Story and photo by
ANDRICKA THOMAS
CECOM LCMC (Forward)

The commanding general, CECOM Life Cycle Management Command, addressed Army Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, or Army Team C4ISR, Forward personnel during a Town Hall meeting May 28 in the Edgewood Conference Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Via thanked those attending the meeting for all of their efforts in support of the Warfighter and for the vital part they're playing in the transformation of the organization.

"You are on the forefront of helping us transform and move this mission down here [APG], which is exceedingly complex,"

Via said. "This is one of the most complex BRAC [Base Realignment and Closure] moves for the Army, and quite possibly for DoD [Department of Defense]."

He recalled that a little more than a year ago (March 17, 2008) he was at APG for the groundbreaking for the Army Team C4ISR Phase One campus and noted that already the construction of the Phase One building exteriors is completed with the Phase Two campus construction now beginning.

"I commend Mike Vetter [CECOM director (G4) for Logistics and Engineering] for the incredible job he has done," Via said. "We have made phenomenal progress, and the timeline is moving quickly; and you [Army Team C4ISR personnel] are fortunate to be on the front end of that."

See TOWN HALL, page 4



APG celebrates The Year of the NCO



RDECOM career counselor goes extra miles for Soldiers

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

During this Year of the NCO, noncommissioned officers are being praised for their care of America’s Soldiers.

There may be none more focused on the well-being of those within his command than Master Sgt. Thomas A. Bogetti, career counselor for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

Bogetti is not only charged with managing the careers of RDECOM Soldiers who are spread out around the globe, but also of Soldiers within the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, which is relocating to APG under base realignment and closure, and because of a shortage of career counselors within the major subordinate commands, he also is the servicing counselor for the U.S. Security Assistance Command based in Fort Belvoir, Va.

Bogetti said that typically, career counseling often is confused with retention.

“As a command career counselor, I’m tasked with counseling Soldiers on their career needs,” he said. “It may be retention focused but if they are looking to leave the military, I have to focus on their needs and plans to aid them in a successful transition whether they are leaving for the Reserves or National Guard or strictly as a civilian.”

He said that along with sustainment counseling, which focuses on projected opportunities, when Soldiers decide to stay in, he pushes the Army

“My approach is Soldier and Family based, and my philosophy is to focus on Soldiers as human beings and on their needs, wants and desires, not as numbers for making mission.”

— Master Sgt. Thomas A. Bogetti

Career and Alumni Program, and other job assistance programs for those deciding to leave.

“I center on compensation management,” he said. “My approach is Soldier and Family based, and my philosophy is to focus on Soldiers as human beings and on their needs, wants and desires, not as numbers for making mission.

“Second, I ask the Soldier ‘What are you doing to personally and professionally improve yourself?’”

Sustainment counseling includes informing Soldiers about military schools and correspondence courses that can gain them college credits in civilian schools. He also assists Soldiers desiring to change their military occupational specialty or transition from enlisted to officer or warrant officer.

“The career counselor helps and facilitates those goals even if it means just pointing them in the right direction,” Bogetti said. “We do a lot more than retention. We focus on getting Soldiers to think about where they want to be two to five years from now. Too many go day to day and year to year without thinking about [their future]

until a situation forces them to make the tough decisions.”

Like Retention NCOs, career counselors assist commanders in achieving retention goals as directed by Congress and the Department of the Army, Bogetti added.

“The options, bonuses and benefits are many, and a prime focus is to make sure Soldiers are aware of the opportunities and advantages to continuing their careers,” he said.

Along with leading the APG retention mission, Bogetti’s job includes visiting installations under the RDECOM and CECOM umbrellas to train or advise leaders, Soldiers and anyone else in the “retention chain” on updates and regulation changes to keep them prepared for inspections which are conducted quarterly.

“RDECOM is unique in that it’s spread out all over,” Bogetti said. “I regularly go on staff assistant visits to evaluate retention NCOs as well as their leader’s retention programs.

This includes advising commanders on Bar to Reenlistment or Chapter proceedings or inspecting reenlistment contracts.

“These contracts are a bind-

ing authority,” Bogetti said. “When you are asking for four or five more years of a person’s life, you’re asking for them to put a lot more than their signature on the line. We have to be sure they are sound.”

Bogetti, who is more often than not on the road, regularly travels to RDECOM’s U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Command in Natick, Mass., to Fort Monmouth, N.J., Fort Belvoir, Va., Iraq, Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia seeing to the needs of RDECOM, CECOM and SAC Soldiers, as well as Soldiers in RDECOM’s Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center.

A native of Pennsylvania, Bogetti entered the Army in 1990 and attended Basic and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., where he was awarded the military occupational specialty of 51R, Interior Electrician.

Subsequent training resulted in his obtaining the additional MOS’s of 91Q, Pharmacy Technician and 79S, Career Counselor.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in social sciences from Upper Iowa University and dual master’s degrees in human resources development and procurement and acquisitions management and a master’s of business administration from Webster University.

Having joined the Army 30 days after graduating from high school, Bogetti obtained all of his degrees while on active duty. With a grandfather who

served during World War II and a father who served in the National Guard during Vietnam, Bogetti said he’s certain a career in the Army was meant to be.

“In the back of my mind, the Army was something I always wanted to do,” he said. “I thought I wanted to be a lawyer but think I would have dropped out. The Army gave me the discipline I needed. After my first two years, I settled down and decided I needed to do more.”

He said he believes his strong sense of responsibility for his Soldiers comes from the “moral grounding” his father instilled in him.

“He added a twist to the Golden Rule,” he said. “Doing unto others as you would have them do unto you wasn’t enough. He said you have to think about cultures and backgrounds. They might not want to be treated the way you would want to be treated. So his rule was ‘treat others as they would like to be treated.

“That’s especially important in my job,” he added. “I have to establish that rapport and empathy. If I can’t establish that, I’m worthless.”

Bogetti is approaching retirement eligibility in July. He said that his only regret is that too many people still do not recognize the sacrifices of American Soldiers.

“Every Soldier is worthy of praise, whether they’re a good, solid Soldier or substandard, they’re still serving this country,” Bogetti said. “A lot of civilians have no idea what that

See BOGETTI, page 9

In an Army of opportunities, one Soldier drives toward her potential

Story and photos by
ROGER TEEL
20th Support Command (CBRNE)

When the U.S. Army became her vehicle seven years ago, Sgt. Gabrielle M. Martinez got behind the wheel, fastened her seatbelt and ignited the engine. Then she put her foot on the gas.

She didn’t just come along for the ride.

Now assigned as an information systems analyst/operator with a Weapons of Mass Destruction Coordination Element, 20th Support Command (CBRNE), Martinez makes an impact on nearly everyone she meets.

“She doesn’t shy away from challenges,” said 1st Sgt. Tamiko Bogad, her former unit first sergeant, “she meets them head on.”

“Whatever needs to be done,” Martinez said matter-of-factly of her duties. She exhibits more enthusiasm for her “additional duties.”

Since arriving in October 2008, Martinez has helped fine tune the unit physical fitness program. She also assumed leadership of the unit color guard. And, during her limited free time, she earned a college degree.

By many accounts, she is a role model for other Soldiers.

“She is an example of what the Army can provide to our young citizens,” Bogad said. “She realizes all the opportunities the Army has to offer and allows the Army to challenge her and realize the potential within.”

Martinez derives great pleasure from assisting Sgt. Jason Bedoya run the unit PT program.

“Motivating others achieve



Sergeants Jason Bedoya, left, and Gabrielle Martinez work out on the pull-up bar.

their fitness goals and improve their health and overall well-being is rewarding,” Martinez said. “To see other Soldiers succeed -- especially when they thought they wouldn’t, or couldn’t, or have given up and gotten discouraged -- that’s very rewarding.

“It’s good to give back especially in an area where I have natural ability,” she added, emphasizing that the PT program is led by Bedoya.

“It’s his program,” she said. “My support provides an even return for having his support on the color guard.”

“She keeps everybody going,” Bedoya said. “She’s outgoing. She makes it fun, always cracking jokes. She challenges me as well, always throwing out new ideas,

new ways we can do things, new exercises. And she really helps a lot of our Soldiers.”

Martinez’ endeavor into drill and ceremony, calling cadence for the color guard, came at the recommendation of her supervisor, Master Sgt. Charesse Blood.

“The first sergeant was asking for volunteers and Master Sergeant Blood said it would probably be a good idea for me. She said she had similar responsibilities when she was coming up and said it’s a great learning experience and also a challenge. She inspired me, and I volunteered,” Martinez explained.

“The challenging part is keeping everyone motivated to perform and coordinating with the community for rehearsals,” she said.

“I’m currently searching for more volunteers. I’ve also been looking for incentives to make it lucrative for high quality volunteers because they are very much needed. But the people we have are very dedicated,” she added.

“Honor and tradition are being preserved under her charge,” Bogad said. “She effortlessly lives and breathes our Army Values and the Noncommissioned Officer Creed.”

“I have to juggle all these things carefully so I don’t miss training and still provide leadership to the color guard and be there for the PT program,” Martinez said. “There’s a lot of juggling of responsibilities as an NCO.”

Martinez grew up in Pottstown, Pa., about a two-hour

drive north of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

“My father is still there. I have fifteen brothers and sisters; I’m in the middle,” she said.

The lessons she learned growing up in a large Family are apparent.

“I always felt like I was a member of a team,” she said, smiling at the memory. Her siblings range in age from 4 to 43.

“It’s hard to keep a relationship with a sister who is forty years old. I’m twenty seven. She was ready to move out of the house by the time I came along,” she said, adding that her father coordinates an annual Family gathering.

“Whoever shows up shows up,” Martinez said. “We never get everybody there together at once.”

None of her brothers or sisters served in the military.

“I’m the first in my Family to graduate from college,” she added, proud of achieving an academic goal. She graduated in May from American Military University, earning a bachelor’s degree – with honors -- in information technology.

“My mom was there for my graduation,” she added, re-emphasizing the importance she attaches to Family ties.

“I’d like to complete my master’s program in an in-your-face traditional classroom,” she continued, having earned her bachelor’s degree online. “I’m taking a break now and identifying future endeavors.”

It’s been seven years since

See MARTINEZ, page 12

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PA, Building 2201, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal oppor-

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Staff

APG Commander Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo
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Graphic Designer/Web Designer Nick Pentz
Web site www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

Poor economy, re-up rates prompt changes in retention

Changes in retention expected by June

Story by
STAFF SGT PETER FORD
MND-B PAO

At a time when the economy at home is ailing, the Army is having unprecedented success at retaining its Soldiers; especially in view of the new, flexible GI Bill and the job security that military service holds.

That success has ushered in changes to how the Army conducts its retention business for the rest of this fiscal year. The booming flow of bonus money many Soldiers have come to expect may begin to trickle.

“Currently, the Department of the Army is reviewing a myriad of changes in the retention program, one being the bonus,” said Sgt. Maj. Garrett Luplow, of the 1st Cavalry Division Retention Office.

The Army uses retention bonuses as incentives used to help keep the force strong, explained Sgt. 1st Class Donna Schwann, an Army Reserve career counselor. The same reasons that drive Soldiers to re-enlist also drive changes in the retention process.

When the number of personnel in the Army gets too low, bonuses are reconsidered and published two times per year. Conversely, when Army retention personnel meet or exceed strength quotas, so does the cash.

“A projected change for the active Army program is a decrease in the number of military occupational skills on the list for bonuses,” Luplow said. “However, in some of the most critical MOSs there will be an increase in the amount of money being paid.”

“The last day for Reservists to re-enlist under the current bonus was [March 5, 2009],” Schwann said. “Once the new list is published, those bonuses from the new list will be used.”

The robust bonus payment system used in the current retention program has also made an enormous impact on changes in the retention process.

“The bonus has been the deciding factor for many to re-enlist while the economy was strong,” Luplow said. “Soldiers are now re-enlisting regardless of the bonus because of the weak economy.”

The active Army component is doing very well in retention. “The last time I checked stats February twenty-seventh, the active Army had already completed sixty-one percent of its annual retention mission,” Luplow added.

The Army’s annual retention goal for fiscal 2009 was set at 65,500. According to Luplow, the Army has already reenlisted more than 40,000 Soldiers in just the last five months.

Soldiers who are thinking about re-enlisting should make prompt decisions about their careers in the military.

“Because the Army is ahead of its retention goal, expect restrictions,” Luplow said. “One of the restrictions is the implementation of the ninety-day window.”

The 90-day window means if any Soldier gets within 90 days of their current reenlistment, they will not be able to re-enlist without an exception to policy letter.

Luplow said that Soldiers should know their end time service date 24 months prior to reenlistment.

“If a Soldier does not take action before those ninety days, the Department of the Army retention figures the Soldier probably does not want to re-enlist.

“We are keeping more Soldiers than expected,” Luplow said. “This could possibly be the last deployment here for the First Cavalry Division, which can be a huge factor in the decision of many Soldiers who want to re-enlist.”

One of the biggest things Luplow hears from Soldiers is they love the Army; they love what they are doing for their country. But their biggest problem is the strain multiple deployments are putting on their Families.

Soldiers who re-enlist said they enjoy receiving bonuses but that the bonuses are not the only reason they re-enlist.

“The re-enlistment bonus is a plus,” said Staff Sgt. Lalance Richardson. “I love my job, I love the job security and I love to travel.”

“I think the retention bonuses that the Army has offered us are great but I am grateful for the Army, because it has provided me an opportunity to advance personally and professionally,” said Staff Sgt. Darryl McNealy, a native of Madisonville, Fla., and an air traffic controller with Company A, Division Support Troop Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division.

According to Luplow, the retention



In this file photo, 1,215 U.S. service members from all over Iraq re-enlist during a ceremony in the Al Faw Palace rotunda at Camp Victory in Baghdad, July 4, 2008. New pressures from the economy, which have helped the Army meet retention goals, may cause some reenlistment bonuses to decrease or vanish all together.

program is not just a tool to keep Soldiers in the Army; it is used to aid Soldiers in career progression.

“For example, if a military occupational skill is being phased out and the MOS is over-strength, the Soldier should see their unit career counselor to steer him down the right path to a successful, rewarding career,” Ludlow said.

“The new version of the GI Bill is also expected to come out soon,” added Luplow. “The new GI Bill will allow Soldiers to transfer part of it to their [Family members]; where before, only a portion

could be transferred and a portion of your bonus would be taken away if you were to transfer it to a Family member.”

New changes in retention are expected by this month. Soldiers looking to stay Army should adapt to these expected changes.

The bonuses Soldiers may be shooting for might be well out of reach or have new restrictions placed on them. Luplow recommends that Soldiers take a proactive approach to their military careers and not procrastinate with reenlistment, negating the effects of a 90-day window.

ARL scientist maximizes in career field

Story by
SARAH MAXWELL
ARL

After a long-standing professional career at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, a ballistics researcher was recently selected to become a senior scientist, or ST, the highest level in government service in his career field.

Dr. Brad Forch served as a supervisory research physicist and chief of the Propulsion Science Branch at the Weapons and Materials Research Directorate for 15 of his 24 years at ARL before his ST selection.

“I was surprised when I got selected,” said Forch, who holds a doctorate in physical chemistry and chemical physics from Wayne State University in Detroit. “This

will be an opportunity to do more things.”

According to the Office of Personnel Management Web site, an ST selectee is expected to have a graduate degree, significant research experience and a national or international reputation in his or her field. An ST must also demonstrate he or she is sought as an advisor and consultant on scientific and technological problems that extend beyond his or her specialty.

Since 1986, Forch has given more than 300 scientific, technical, research and leadership presentations to almost every audience in his career field as well as all levels of Army and Department of Defense leadership. But, when he became branch chief in 1994, he said he would never put his name in his team’s

publications. He said that as leader, he wanted to “push them out front” and allow them to excel.

“The best thing you can do is step in the background and let them do it,” he said. “I like to jump-start people, discover what they can do, stay in touch and pass it off.”

As an ST, Forch said he will be free from most of the administrative work a normal supervisor is expected to perform, so he will be able to focus on mentoring other scientists.

He said he enjoys his job so much that he hasn’t taken a vacation since 1990 and has worked more than 1,500 days straight.

“I really believe in what I’m doing,” he said.

In his career field but outside the lab-

oratory, Forch serves on executive committees and is involved with outreach mentoring.

“I have lots of interactions on the outside to leverage technology for ARL,” he said. “I think that’s really important.”

As an ST, Forch also automatically became an ARL Fellow, which is an exclusive group of scientists who excel in their technical proficiencies and have a positive influence on the organization.

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory provides innovative science, technology and analyses to enable a full-spectrum of military operations. It serves as the bridge between the scientific and technical communities and the Army and is the leader in providing innovative solutions for the current and future Warfighter.



Veterans’ Voices

New chair appointed to Harford County Veterans Affairs Commission Comeau served with Combined Forces Command in Afghanistan

Story by
ROBERT B. THOMAS JR.
Harford County Government

A retired lieutenant colonel with the Maryland Army National Guard has been appointed by County Executive David R. Craig and confirmed by the Harford County Council to serve as chair of the Harford County Veterans Commission.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael G.

Comeau entered the Maryland Army National Guard in November 1991 as a first lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps, assigned to Headquarters, State and Regional Command.

During his service with the Army National Guard, Comeau was assigned to several major commands and was involved in numerous operations and overseas deployments including duty in Germany, Estonia, Kosovo and Guan-

tanamo Bay, Cuba. He also served as the deputy staff judge advocate, Combined Forces Command in Kabul, Afghanistan.

A resident of Jarrettsville and graduate of Parkville High School, he received his bachelor’s from Randolph – Macon College in 1978 and his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Baltimore School of Law in 1981.

Comeau received various awards and commendations during his military service including the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with a campaign star, the War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, a Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation and the Maryland Distinguished Service Cross.

He served as a delegate in the Mary-

land House of Delegates from 1997 to 1999 and also served as a Maryland assistant attorney general from 1989 to 1993.

In 2005 he was the recipient of the Leadership in Law Award from the Daily Record. He currently serves as an assistant county attorney for Anne Arundel County.

Comeau is an active member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans.

“Michael Comeau has distinguished himself as an exemplary member of our armed forces and has served his county, state and country with distinction,” Craig said. “We believe his service and experience will serve him well as chair of the county’s Veterans Affairs Commission.”

Town Hall

From front page

The Phase One project is approximately three months ahead of schedule, he noted.

“The builder is at about fifty-four percent complete with the Phase One project,” Vetter said. “They’ve dedicated a large crew to the project to ensure they meet the BRAC [implementation] deadlines.”

Vetter said most of the work being done on the Phase One campus is on building interiors at this stage and that designs on room layouts are now complete. He explained the concept behind the “domain approach” in terms of collocating work functions to optimize synergy throughout the lifecycles of C4ISR systems as those systems are acquired, developed, fielded and supported for Warfighters.

During a question and answer session, employees inquired about environmental considerations during construction and design of the Phase One and Phase Two campuses.

Vetter explained that the green roof of

what will be the new C4ISR auditorium and window choices in Phase One were chosen in consideration of being environmentally friendly. The Phase Two project includes construction designs such as reflective roofing to control heating and cooling costs. Vetter said the Mission Training Facility in Phase One and all Phase Two buildings are geothermal.

Via summarized the significant progress being made by the APG Garrison in preparing for the relocation of Army Team C4ISR personnel over the next few years, including renovation of the Fitness Center and Top of the Bay, construction of a new child care center and recreation park and ongoing discussions with the state of Maryland to improve public transit systems for easier access to the installation for commuters.

In closing, Via challenged employees to keep looking forward as they pioneer the transition from Fort Monmouth.

“Out of all the assignments I’ve had, this is the first where I’ve been able to see [such extensive] planning come to fruition in only two years,” Via said. “This is a world-class organization you are a part of and being on the forefront of this transition is a once-in-a-generation opportunity.”

Army promotes Maryland NG pilot to CW5

Story by
MAJ. JOE SCROCCA
20th Support Command (CBRNE)

Against the backdrop of a U.S. Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, a Maryland Army National Guard aviator was promoted May 21 to chief warrant officer 5, the highest warrant officer rank attainable.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Daniel B. Chapman was promoted at Weide Army Heliport on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground by Col. Charles Schulze, deputy chief of staff for Aviation for the MDARNG.

Chapman reached a milestone only a few Soldiers ever reach.

“As an Army officer, Dan has performed magnificently under difficult and demanding circumstances,” Schulze said. “He is an officer we have all come to know, respect and rely upon.”

Chapman graduated from Perry Hall High School in Baltimore County, and began his Army career in 1982. He entered Army Aviation in 1984 when he graduated from Warrant Officer Candidate School and Initial Entry Rotary Wing School at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Chapman is currently the Blackhawk standardization instructor pilot with Joint Forces Headquarters, Aviation.

During his career with the MDARNG, Chapman served as instrument flight examiner, aviation safety officer, operations officer, and he was the team leader in Tal Afar, Iraq, during a 15-month deployment with Detachment 1, 1159th Medical Evacuation Company from 2004 to 2006, providing support to the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and 2-14 Cavalry of the 25th Infantry Division.

Chapman celebrated his promotion with his wife of 25 years, Sharon, and their three children - Bryan, Krystina and Zachary. Also in attendance were Chief Warrant Officer 5 Keith Harris, command chief warrant officer for the MDARNG, and about 150 Family members, friends and Soldiers.

”When Dan was six months old he went up with his Uncle Red in a two seated helicopter with the doors off -- and fell asleep,” said Chapman’s mother, Rosemary Chapman. “When they land-



Photo by RETIRED CW5 HOWARD HALUCHA
Chief Warrant Officer 4 Dan Chapman maneuvers an Army NG UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter conducting hoist training during an emergency preparedness exercise at APG in June 2008. Chapman was promoted to CW5 May 21.

ed, his uncle said Dan would be a pilot someday.”

Chapman’s uncle was Rowland Roe-loff, one of the first Federal Aviation Administration-licensed commercial rotary wing pilots in the country. He may be best known, according to Rosemary, for being the first helicopter pilot to be cited for illegally flying over the White House and Capitol Building in April 1948.

Chided as being “the consummate underachiever,” Chapman has qualified in six Army airframes: the TH-55 (Osage), OH-6 (Cayuse), UH-1 (Iroquois), OH-58 (Kiowa), AH-1 (Cobra) and UH-60 (Blackhawk). He now hopes to attend the CH-47 (Chinook) qualification course to be familiar with all the airframes currently flown at Weide Army Heliport.

Chapman has piloted Army aircraft while conducting assorted cavalry scout, counter drug, attack, general support, air assault, and medical evacuation missions. Once he completes CH-47 training he will also be qualified for cargo missions.

He said he enjoyed flying the OH-6 best.

“It’s a very maneuverable, single-pilot aircraft, and there is nothing like the freedom and excitement of the scout mission,” he said.

No matter what aircraft he is flying, Chapman loves his job – and flying with the MDARNG.

“The ability to operate in three dimensions -- the speed of flying, the freedom, and flexibility to provide varied support to multiple missions -- that is what it is all about,” he said. “I never take it for granted. I know I’m lucky, and God willing, I will be doing this for a long time.”

ROC

From front page

infrastructure being another, and the garrison staffing that has to now take on more than a ninety percent civilian population versus a sixty-seven percent civilian population.”

APG’s inbound organizations will grow and enhance the installation’s capabilities to directly support the Warfighter through research, development and engineering as well as testing and evaluation by bringing in approximately 8,500 new jobs and swelling the installation’s total workforce to about 20,000 in 2012. Overall, there will be a net gain of some 4,700 personnel.

The transformation is not just about shear numbers, however. As the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools populated with young trainees departs, the post’s transient Soldier population will decrease from a high of 3,000 in 2008 to a mere 17 in 2012, changing dramatically the complexion and needs of the post’s population.

Therefore, establishing the resources and support for a changing mission and a new workforce will be priority.

“The human capital resource that’s required to support this high technology mission that APG will have in 2012 is our greatest challenge – to have the right people here to do the work that needs to be accomplished,” Nelson continued.

This BRAC recommendation is unique in that there’s an emphasis on realigning rather than closing to create a more efficient approach to mission success.

As Nelson explained, “Previous BRAC recommendations have centered around identifying redundant installation capability, but this BRAC recommendation is looking at consolidating mission sets and like-mission sets to allow the full cycle of research, development, engineering, test and evaluation to fielding, all to happen here at a single installation.”

After helping tackle those issues, Pillsbury said he’s confident the APG workforce will create one of the nation’s premier technology centers.

“The brain trust that’s coming to Aberdeen on top of the brain trust that’s already here is going to be world class,” Pillsbury said. “I don’t think there’s anything that this workforce won’t be able to accomplish in the future.”

He added that the new life-cycle composition of the installation will yield positive outcomes for future.

“I will be very surprised that if by 2014, 2015, certainly 2016 and on out, that this doesn’t become the center of excellence for all things IT, cyber research,” he said.

Chapel News

Commentary: Heirs of God



By
**CHAP (COL)
RUBEN D. COLON JR.**
Senior Chaplain, APG

A wealthy man died, apparently without leaving a will. Consequently, accord-

ing to law, the estate was to be divided among the several surviving cousins who were the next of kin. Also as prescribed by law, the deceased’s household goods and other items of personal property were to be converted into cash in a public auction.

During the sale, the auctioneer held up a framed photograph, but no one bid on it, including the cousins. Later, a woman approached the auctioneer and asked him if she might purchase the picture for a dollar, which was all she had. She explained that the photograph was a likeness of the deceased man’s only son. She went on to relate that she had been a servant in the deceased’s household when the boy lost his life trying to rescue a drowning person and that she had loved him very much.

The auctioneer accepted the dollar, and the woman went home and placed the photograph on a table beside her bed.

It was then she noticed a bulge in the back of the frame. She undid the backing and there, to her amazement, was the rich man’s will. The instructions in the will were simple: “I give and bequeath all my possessions to the person who cares enough for my son to cherish this photograph.”

It is God’s will that the experience of his loving presence be our rightful heritage. The Apostle Paul has written: “For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.” It continues, ... “we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him (Romans 8:14-17).

For Christians there can be a value of importance in discovering an inheritance by loving God, who loves enough so that we can love others.

A young woman lived in a home where

she was very unhappy. She often complained to her friends about how difficult and trying it was for her to stay there. She blamed her parents and the other members of her Family for her discontent, and she threatened to move out as soon as she could afford to be on her own.

But one day her face was graced with a happy smile. Gone was her usual glum expression. Her eyes were sparkling. There was a spring in her step.

A friend noted the difference at once and exclaimed, “Things must have improved at home. I’m so glad! Your Family must be treating you differently!”

“No,” the young woman replied, “I’m the one who’s different! (Adapted from “Our Daily Bread.”)

Today’s heroes, mostly unknown, are the persons who, in spite of the world’s evils, can live and love in a way that says, “I’m the one who’s different.”

As children of God and heirs of the kingdom, you will discover that we indeed belong to one another.



BXs, PXs offer valuable learning experience for students making the grade

AAFES

According to the Department of Defense, children of active duty military personnel attend, on average, six to nine different school systems from kindergarten to 12th grade.

As a military command with a motto of “we go where you go,” the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is, attuned to the unique challenges military children face in their educational pursuits.

Beyond being a destination for school supplies and clothes, BXs and PXs even offer an array of free and discounted products to students who excel in the classroom through it’s “You Made the Grade” program.

Now in its ninth year, AAFES’ education rewards initiative is anchored by a booklet chock full of complimentary offers for students in grades one through 12 who maintain a “B” average or better.

The current “You Made the Grade” booklet includes coupons for a free regular 6-inch combo meal from Subway, complimentary admission to a Reel Time theater and \$2 off any new release DVD. Each booklet also contains an entry form for a quarterly drawing in which three winners are randomly awarded savings bonds in \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$5,000 denominations.

“All authorized exchange shoppers, who are full-time students, are eligible to pick up a booklet and register for the savings bonds every time they receive a qualifying report card,” said AAFES’ Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Jeffry Helm. “The program offers a terrific practical learning experience for our military students; it pays to learn.”

To receive the AAFES “You Made the Grade” booklet, students must present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall “B” or better average to their local BX/PX. Students may receive one coupon package and enter the savings bond drawing for every qualifying report card. Military Families can contact their local AAFES main store manager or general manager for more information.



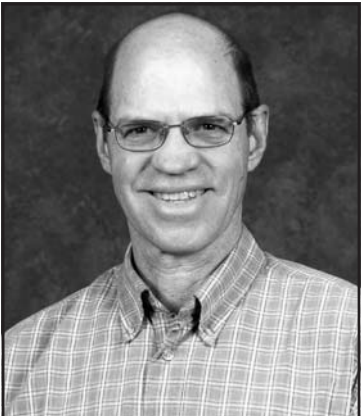
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Peter Annunziato



CW5 Ralph E. Williams III



Keith Hauret



Angela Blankenbiller



Elizabeth Richardson



Georgiann J. Mangione



Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Moffat



Jean Wright



Capt. Julius T. Boyd II, Team Leader



Dr. Jennifer Gottfried

Ten win gold at FEB awards luncheon

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

The Baltimore Federal Executive Board held the 42nd Annual Excellence in Federal Career Awards Luncheon and ceremony May 1, recognizing federal agency employees who work in Maryland for excellence in job performance during the previous year.

Silver and bronze awards went to 79 APG employees.

Supervisors from federal installations or organizations submitted nominees for FEB awards months in advance and a blue ribbon panel of senior executives, along with members of the executive committee, selects the award levels.

This year, APG personnel won awards in 17 of the 18 categories and gold awards spanned 10 of the 19 categories.

Winners included personnel from Edgewood Chemical Biological Center; U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School; U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine; U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, U.S. Army Developmental Test Center; U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense; U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade and the U.S. Army Medical Research Laboratory.

The event was hosted by the acting chair of the Baltimore FEB, George W. King, Internal Revenue Services senior commissioner’s representative. The event was held at Martin’s West in Baltimore. More than 1,000 federal officials, employees and military service members, Family members and guests attended.

FEB Gold award winners

Category 1a - Outstanding Supervisor-GS13 and Above

Peter Annunziato, ECBC

Annunziato serves at ECBC as an advance technology demonstration supervisor. Using his unique combination of 21 years of program management experience and technical skill sets, Annunziato assembles and manages a team responsible for conducting the Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Unmanned Ground Reconnaissance Advance Concept Technology Demonstrations. This ACTD put state of the art chemical biological detection and protection technology into the hands of Soldiers in an accelerated pace allowing U.S. defensive capabilities to counter the rapidly evolving conditions of the battlefield.

Under his management, the ATD team has successfully implemented the CURG ACTD. Due to Annunziato’s guidance the Joint Contaminated Surface Detector portion of this ACTD has improved upon the current system in its ability to detect liquid and solid chemicals, and warfare agents, toxic industrial chemicals, and non-traditional agents at speeds at up to 45 mph, a capability that has not existed until now. The CBRN and the CUGR ACCTD was transitioned, ahead of schedule and under budget, to four government organizations for production and fielding and to industry for commercialization. This record breaking accomplishment was a direct result of Annunziato’s steadfast leadership and focus on the award.

When asked about winning the award, Annunziato said he appreciates the recognition and was shocked to win the award.

“It feels really great to be recognized by my management,” he said. “Just being nominated was a good feeling.

Receiving the gold made me very proud, especially knowing that I was evaluated over many qualified people across the federal civilian and military workforce in the Baltimore region.”

Annunziato said that he is grateful for the people who work for him and those who he works for.

“I am most grateful to my program assistant and to the ECBC management for the nomination. My success was only made possible by the professionalism and dedication of my fellow team members: Shawn Funk, Doretha Green, Jack Tilghman, Dana Trzeciak and Wenona Vistoso,” he said. “Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines taught me a lot about what capabilities are important to them to aid me in my product design and configuration.”

Category 1b -Outstanding Supervisor-GS12 and below

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Ralph E. Williams III, OMMS.

Williams is the chief of the Warrant Officer Professional Development Division, Command and Staff Department, OMMS. He is responsible for the professional military education provided to warrant officer basic and advance course students in three ordnance specialties (automotive maintenance, armament and allied trades). In addition to the leadership he provides to more than 700 officer students per year, Williams also mentors and coaches a diverse staff and faculty of 10 military and civilian personnel.

For a significant portion of 2008 Williams served concurrently as the director of the Weapons and Metalworking Services Department, normally a GS-13 supervisory position. Pending organizational restructuring in conjunction with base realignment and closure precluded filing the position sooner.

As director, WMSD, Williams was responsible for the direct supervision and management of six subordinate divisions with an authorized strength of 270 military civilian and contractor personnel. In this capacity, Williams directed the execution of a critical wartime training mission encompassing a wide range of specialties (land combat systems, small arms weapons, fire control systems, and allied trades) spread over multiple services in the Department of Defense to include the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force. The total dollar value of equipment under his control exceeded more the \$460 million.

Williams’ many contributions to the Ordnance Corps have been both timely and far-reaching terms of their impact throughout the greater logistics community, according to his nomination package.

Williams said that he enjoys interacting with Soldiers.

“What I enjoy most is the interaction with others whose goals are the training of our future warriors,” he said. “I also enjoy that no one day is the same as the day before, and everyday I learn something new. Lastly, I enjoy the interaction with Soldiers of all ranks.”

“I was truly surprised that I had gone on to win the gold award, especially after reading the other two silver winners’ bios,” he said.

Williams said that he would like to thank his supervisors, Roger Thompson and Gary Neuser for nominating him for the award.

“I appreciate that they have confidence in my ability to perform the jobs that they entrusted to me,” he said.

“I also would like to thank Deborah Williams who is my spouse and battle buddy, Colonel Reilly, Colonel [Bobby] Towery, Chief Warrant Officer 5

[Arthur] Dahl, retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 [Harold] DeBerry, Dr. Aileen Tobin, Gayle Olszyk, the Ordnance Center and Schools, Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, Warrant Officer Professional Development and Weapons and Metalworking Service Department staffs. I would like to thank all the warrant officers, officers, noncommissioned officers and Soldiers who I have had the pleasure to mentor and interact with during this journey of my career.”

Category 2a -Outstanding Professional Technical, Scientific and Program Support

Keith Hauret, CHPPM

Hauret is the senior scientist for the Department of Defense’s premier injury prevention program.

He designed and implemented the first reliable deployment injury surveillance system that includes both types and causes of injury- a system that has tracked battle and non-battle injuries in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom Afghanistan since 2004.

Hauret was the first epidemiologist who had the foresight and skills to merge four divers’ databases to glean actionable deployment-related battle injury and non-battle injury data for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraq Freedom. Hauret devised and optimized the construction of this complex database and has disseminated his enormously valuable injury outcome information to the highest levels of the DoD where it is being used to decreased injury prevention efforts to be successful. It is critical to know the scope, magnitude and causes of the problems being faced, and Hauret was able for the first time to make causation data available to senior leaders which could be used to protect service members while combat operations were still ongoing.

Hauret is well known in injury prevention circles as he has been a primary or secondary author on 21 peer-reviewed articles, three books’ chapters, four conference proceedings and trade journals, 24 abstracts and 25 technical reports about injury related epidemiology. Hauret worked on a number of high level government committees, and the frequency with which he is sought as a consultant by military decision-makers serves as a testimony to the high regard others have for his work.

Hauret said that it surprised and humbled him to be selected for the Gold award.

“This nomination reflects not only my work and accomplishments, but also those of the deployment injury surveillance team and the Injury Prevention Program. I greatly appreciate the support I have had from them and the CHPPM command,” Hauret said.

Hauret added that he considers it a privilege to be part of the Injury Prevention Program.

“I have a unique opportunity to work with Doctor Bruce Jones Program Manager, Doctor Joe Knapik, and other recognized leaders in injury prevention. I greatly appreciate their mentorship, leadership and example,” he said. “It is a pleasure to work with such a distinguished team that is so committed and enjoys the work we do.”

Category 2b -Outstanding Professional Non-Supervisory, Administrative, Management & Specialist

Angela Blankenbiller, ATC

In the past year, Blankenbiller has served ATC as a government purchase card holder, supply distribution point operator, driver’s licensing and training coordinator, and training coordinator and

property book officer.

As a principle contributor to a centralized team that supports 1,200 employees and handles more than 14,000 purchases per year, Blankenbiller’s certification as government purchase card holder allowed her to efficiently purchase items for Supply Distribution Points. This was especially important in supporting ATC’s testing mission to the Soldiers in theater.

Additionally, ATC was dedicated to supporting the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Program, the DoD’s number one acquisition priority. The logistics trail to support to MRAP testing effort totaled \$6.56 million in supplies and materials. Blankenbiller’s understanding of vendor sources as well as the test requirements was crucial, and she worked to ensure that parts and tools arrived in a timely manner.

Blankenbiller readily volunteered to manage the ATC Driver’s Licensing and Training Program as a developmental assignment, and she was tasked with establishing the program from scratch. Her management of this program ensured that approximately 1,700 test supported personnel were given the proper authority through training and licensing to operate multiple pieces of equipment. Blankenbiller accepted another development assignment as the ATC Property Book Officer, responsible for maintaining more than 25,000 line items valued at over \$216 million. During this time, the automated system responsible for maintaining the Property Book was being transitioned to a new system, and she taught herself the new program and ensured that the Property Book staff was trained.

Blankenbiller said that it was an honor to win the award.

“It was such an honor to be nominated for the silver award, and it was an added bonus to have won the Gold award,” she said. “I want to thank my supervisor Louise Beyer for nominating me and being a great mentor.”

She added that she also appreciates her Family for supporting her, and that she enjoys the variety and difficulty of her work

“I enjoy my job because it is very challenging and I’m constantly learning,” she said.

Category 3a - Outstanding Para-Professional- Technical Scientist & Program Support

Elizabeth (Libby) Richardson, ATC

Richardson is an engineering technician at ATC. She began her career at ATC in 1980 as an engineering aide, and years later formed the nucleus of the Clothing and Individual Equipment Team, whose importance and influence in the Army acquisition community continues to grow.

Richardson is absolutely driven by her focus on excellence in testing the items that Soldiers use, wear and carry on the battlefield, ensuring those items are reliable and effective.

Richardson has expanded the scope of her test team by personally bringing in test work not traditionally assigned to her group: Designing first-ever producers for testing the new generation of military flashlights; developing the first-ever test plan for Poly-Ice (an early-developmental system that coats hard surfaces and soils with a slippery coating rendering the surface unusable by vehicles and civilians); persuading developers to bring to ATC the reliability test of the Non-Destructive Test Equipment system (a prototype machine designed to validate the integrity of fielded body

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CERDEC director introduces center to AUSA

Story by
MATTHEW HICKMAN
RDECOM

With base realignment and closure implementation in full swing, Gary Blohm, director of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center from Fort Monmouth, N.J., spoke to local community members, APG Soldiers and Department of Defense civilians during a luncheon sponsored by the Aberdeen Chapter of the Association of the United States Army May 19. Blohm provided the chapter's membership an overview of CERDEC's current vision, mission and focus.

"We're here to provide America's brave sons and daughters with the most effective solutions to ensure mission success and their safe return home," Blohm said.

To that extent, he said CERDEC staffs a professional, driven workforce that focuses on

key elements that provide mission success. These focus areas include developing and transitioning command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, or C4ISR, technologies in support of transformation, providing the life cycle management commands and other key customers with qualified and responsive engineers, expanding system engineering capabilities to support future force requirements and ensuring successful strategies to maintain and enhance abilities during the transition to APG.

Blohm explained CERDEC's role by briefly discussing the center's organizational structure. CERDEC employs 2,364 civilians and 14 Soldiers, 75 percent of whom have degrees in areas such as electrical, computer science, mechanical and chemical engineering. These employees are responsible for research, development and engineering of everything

from rechargeable batteries and fuel cells to sensing technologies such as ground penetration radar and advanced antennas. Blohm said he is especially proud of CERDEC's engineering support.

"We're more than just R and D; we have a big component of engineering support both for acquisition and sustainment," he said.

CERDEC's programs are aligned with the Army's four focus areas for its technology base: training, accelerating adaptable and scalable individual/unit need-based training; power and energy, developing lightweight, long-lasting power sources with increased energy density; the human dimension, optimizing Soldier performance through-technologies; and the battle command network, persistent ad hoc network capabilities enabling mobile command and control.

The focus in training and human dimension has taken a

greater priority, according to Blohm.

"We're looking for more influence – more work – done in the training area and the human dimension area," Blohm said. The increased demand in training and human dimension will allow those focuses to match the capabilities coming from the power and energy and battle command network, which "have been a high priority for a number of years," he explained.

One way that CERDEC prioritizes research and development is through Army Technology Objectives, which act as fundamental building blocks of the science and technology program, and are intended to promote innovation and competition.

"These programs are typically three years in length, but occasionally they will be longer if highly desired by the Army," he said.

Ultimately, Blohm wants the

Aberdeen community to know that CERDEC focuses on the needs of the Warfighter.

"We're very active in supporting our Soldiers in the field. We've had more than two hundred employees in OIF/OEF [Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom], and getting close to fifty capabilities in the field."

Blohm said he was excited about the opportunities that exist as CERDEC moves to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Mary Jane Jernigan, president of the AUSA Aberdeen chapter, said she was grateful that Blohm could take the time to explain CERDEC's mission and functions

"Mister Blohm gave a great overview of CERDEC's mission and focus area. I know we all look forward to CERDEC moving to APG," Jernigan said.

For more information about CERDEC, visit www.cerdec.army.mil/index.asp.

Bogetti

From page 2

means. They have their freedom because of what we do. That's why I work so hard for them. I owe it to every Soldier to give them the max."

Regarding the Year of the NCO, Bogetti said, "It's about time," and offered his advice for those new to the NCO Corps.

"I would tell young Soldiers that being an NCO takes true commitment. Discipline and develop yourself. You need to assess your environment, keep

the Army Values in balance, and be multi-faceted and able to manage at different levels," he said.

"The Army Values and NCO Creed sound good but if you don't practice them then they're just words," he added.

He said he is proud of an innovation that potentially will help Army career counselors as well as Soldiers grow in their field. Bogetti is the initiator of the Web site www.reenlistingheroes.com, the only official retention Web site endorsed by the Army G1.

He said the site "goes beyond unit retention and focuses on decision making, training and compensation.

"The focus is on displaced Soldiers sitting in Baghdad, for example,

with Internet access looking for career development information," he said. "Career counselors, retention NCOs and leaders can utilize the site's learning tools."

He said he suggested the site initially for RDECOM through the APG Army Suggestion Program. The site became operational October 2008. Bogetti also manages digital retention regulations and transposes regulations onto a digital Web site for the Pentagon.

Bogetti's retirement plans include relocating with his wife Novi to the Middle East – in the United Arab Emirates and obtaining a faculty position with the American University of Dubai. He said he converted to Muslim to embrace

Islam six years ago and that being close to Saudi Arabia is important to him and his wife.

"I've done my career, everything from here on is going to be focused on my religion, my wife and my Family," he said.

Bogetti's previous assignments include Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Belvoir, Va.; Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; Fort Jackson, S.C.; Saudi Arabia; Kuwait and Germany.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Army Commendation and Achievement medals as well as the Expert Field Medical and Career Counselor badges.

FEB

From page 8

armor); and handling a short noticeable test of concealable body armor at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Richardson holds active memberships in the National Defense Industrial Association and in the International Test and Evaluation Association. For the ITEA Technology Conference in 2007, Richardson wrote and presented a technical poster paper entitled Joint Service Combines Development and Operation Testing Making the Concept a Reality that dealt with lessons learned while testing improved gloves and footwear designed to protect joint Soldiers against chemical agents on the battlefield.

"Winning the award feels extremely rewarding. When I saw the write up for my nomination, it made me realize how many rewarding opportunities this career has given to me and also that what we do does matter and is recognized," she said. "I was incredibly surprised to win the award. Especially, once I entered the room and saw what a huge event it was and all the amazing things others had done to be recognized as silver winners. There is so much great work out there and so many people that have a passion for what they do.

"My job is incredibly rewarding," Richardson said. "I have had the opportunity to work with so many great military men and women through our individual and protective equipment testing over the years. We have the ability to make a difference for them that directly affects their ability to perform on the battlefield and in training. It is rewarding to see our test results create design modifications and improve fit, function and quality of issued equipment. The most rewarding is the privilege to work directly with the men and women of the armed forces. It is an honor to serve them."

Richardson said that she would like to thank her supervisor, David O'Steen, the Integrated Soldiers Systems Team branch chief, for her nomination, and her seven team members.

"They always support me and give one hundred and ten percent," she said. "I can always rely on their hard work and dedication. Without them, none of my accolades would be possible for me."

Richardson added that she would like to thank her husband and her children for being supportive of her career.

Category 3b -Outstanding Para-Professional-Administrative/Management Analyst
Georgiann J., Mangione, DTC

As senior budget analyst for the DTC, some of Mangione's responsibilities included reporting on the execution of a \$2 billion annual budget, as well as the allocation of a \$400 million internal command-wide budget. These funds pay for a workforce of more than 7,500 employees engaged in the independent test and eval-

uation of a wide range of DoD systems and an annual test workload that exceeded 10.5 million direct labor hours in 2008. In addition, she provided the analysis and gave recommendations for the proper funding allocation to support the operations at each subordinate test center for the current year budget year and the Program Objective Memorandum.

Mangione said that she was surprised to win the award.

"I was totally thrilled," she said. "I had no idea that I would receive such a great honor. I like my work, but I truly appreciate the people that I work with who provide me with the daily guidance and support that I need to succeed."

Category 7 - Heroism-Individual
Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Moffat, MRICD

Moffat was traveling south on Maryland State Route 5 on his way home from his duty station at MRICD, when he noticed a traffic jam starting to form. He pulled his vehicle off to the side of the road and proceeded to see if medical assistance was needed. He observed that there were no police, fire department of Emergency Medical Service personnel at the scene. Moffat realized that he was the first responder to a severe motorcycle accident and started assessing the extent of the rider's medical situation within seconds of his arrival.

During the entire treatment of the rider, Moffat was extremely conscious not to move the rider. He was fully aware that any movement of the rider could cause more harm. Moffat performed multiple life saving procedures, and exhausted every means at his disposal to save the motorcyclist.

Moffat said that he was honored to receive the award.

"My favorite aspect of my job is saving others," he said.

"I would like to thank the MRICD command for taking the time to recognize a Soldier for his actions and the two unnamed bystanders who assisted me in the treatment and stabilization of the injured motorcyclist. This wasn't the first accident I have stopped at, and surely it won't be my last."

Category 8a -Volunteer Service- Individual
Jean Wright, DTC

Wright serves as the administrative assistant of DTC, Soldier, C3 and Intelligence & Electronics Warfare Division.

After learning that the DTC Command Sgt. Maj. Allen Fritzsche made regular visits to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, she asked if he would deliver a token of thanks to the wounded Soldiers recovering at the hospital. Wright has been an avid quilter since the early 1980s and dedication to quilting is reflected in her work. She gave the command sergeant major two Family heirlooms to give to recovering Soldiers. The quilts, which can take hundreds of hours to complete, were her way of anonymously saying "thank you to the Soldiers for their service and thank you for your

sacrifice and freedom it ensures."

Wright continues to create quilts for Soldiers.

She said that she enjoys the camaraderie of her office, with the overarching goal of supporting the Warfighter.

"Please remember to support our Warfighters, both past and present, in whatever way that you can," she said.

Wright added that she felt honored to receive the award and would like to thank the people who made her volunteer efforts possible.

"It was a good feeling to be recognized, especially at such a large event," Wright said. "I was very surprised to win the gold award. I would like to thank the former Command Sergeant Major Fritzsche and the present Command Sergeant Major Handy for the transportation of the quilts to Walter Reed Medical Center, along with all of their coordination efforts with the command sergeant major at WRAMC. Also, I want to thank members of the DTC Resources and Personnel Directorate for their generous contribution as a gesture of their patronage. I especially thank my supervisor Michael Hubner for his patience and support and for taking the time to write up the award nomination."

Category 8b -Volunteer Service-Group
Capt. Julius T. Boyd II, Team Leader, HHC 61st Ordnance Brigade

The members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade received the Gold award for their commitment to volunteering their time mentoring students in the Edgewood community, including off-duty time and lunch breaks.

The members of HHC 61st Ordnance Brigade taught students how to use specific equipment, operate a laser-guided weapon and taught exercises and calisthenics.

Their mentoring skills enabled students to grasp the concepts and share their own ideas and perspectives and participate in feedback sessions.

The nomination also recognized the members of the Holiday Families Committee from the U.S. Army Materiel System Analysis Activity. These members include: Janet Treusdell, Suzy Brady, Shawn Brady, Jamie Howard, Olivia Sheppe, Margie Hockenberry, Kendra Fisher, Shelly Cobb, Paula Hoak, Jane Krolewski, Stephanie Smith, Melissa Rhoads, Jessica Wehde, Vicki Evering, Holly Costanzi, Angie Randow, Bill Fisher, Greg Navillne, Peter Norman, Heather McMahon-Puhalla and Jennifer Deniola.

These committee members volunteered their time during the Christmas season to provide needy Families and underprivileged children with a holiday that they would never forget. The Families supported by the committee represent a cross section of those truly in need during this time of year. The members collected funds from AMSAA and other Army organizations to sponsor

approximately eight Families that were identified by the Harford County Department of Social Services and APG Army Community Service. The committee also collected nonperishable foods, personal hygiene items and lightly used gifts such as bicycles and coats from donors.

Boyd, who is the team leader, said all the members worked hard, not just for the company, but for their community.

"It is a great opportunity to observe my Soldiers interacting with the students at the local high school, and the teachers get a break, knowing that the students are seeing quality mentoring and sharing ideas and life experience with each other," Boyd said.

"I believe all group volunteers are patriots in the field and volunteer activities. As the company commander, I am truly proud of my Soldiers. I also want to thank the students for being wonderful citizens in the schools and welcoming us into their community. I hope the next group that arrives after us has the same enthusiasm to mentor and coach students in all of their needs," Boyd said.

Category 10 b -Rookie, Technical, Scientific & Program Support
Dr. Jennifer Gottfried, ARL

Gottfried, a physical scientist from ARL, has made a significant impact in the development and application of laser-based methods for the standoff detection and identification of explosives, particularly improvised explosive devices. Such devices continue to claim civilian and military lives in current operations and other places where terrorists operate.

Her fundamental research in laser photophysics pertaining to fast-transient processes occurring during the interaction on high-peak power lasers with material surfaces has also led to other applications. These applications include the detection of hazardous threat chemical materials, toxic environmental pollutants, biological materials and lead in paint. Her work has demonstrated that threat materials identification is possible on complex surface materials, such as those found in real-world situations.

Gottfried said that winning the award was a very pleasant surprise.

"I am honored," she said. "I am glad that in my job I have the opportunity to work on cutting edge research that directly affects people's lives."

Gottfried added that there are many people she would like to thank who have made her success possible.

"I would like to thank my current branch chief Jeff Morris. The mentorship of Brad Forch, former branch chief, Andrzej Miziolek, former post doctorate advisor, and Jeff Morris has been essential for my developing career at ARL," she said. "Doctors Frank De Lucia and Chase Munson are the other members of the laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy who I have been working with to develop systems for detecting explosive residues at standoff distances tens of meters away."

The APG community farewells four in June

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

One Soldier and two Aberdeen Proving Ground civilians officially ended careers collectively spanning more than 97 years of federal service during a Retirement Ceremony at Top of the Bay May 27.

The Soldier retiree was Sgt. 1st Class Michele A. Brock, a senior supply non-commissioned officer with the 20th Support Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosives).

The civilian retirees were Karin A. Hancock, a senior human resource development specialist with the Civilian Human Resources Agency, Northeast Region, and Gerard (Gary) T. Warwick, an information technology specialist in the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, G6.

Brigadier Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and Chief of Ordnance, hosted the ceremony and presented awards assisted by OC&S Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel A. Eubanks.

Collyar praised the retirees on their successful careers and encouraged attendees to read their bios to “see all of the amazing things they’ve done.”

He said the retirees should look at the ceremony as a graduation to the next phase of their lives.

“Now they can relax and just concentrate on their Families and friends,” he said.

Concerning their service “not only to the Army but to their Families,” Collyar asked the retirees to focus on staying safe and enjoying the fruits of their labor.

“Be safe; if there’s one thing you owe your Family it’s a long life together,” Collyar said. “Enjoy the things you’ve earned.

“On behalf of all of us in the Department of Defense, I thank you very much for your service. You and your Family remain a part of our Army Family,” Collyar said.

John Herzberger, military personnel officer, Directorate of Human Resources, narrated the ceremony and Chaplain (Maj.) Young D. Kim presented the invocation.

The U.S. Army Materiel Command Band brass quintet, led by Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Davis provided the program’s music.

Sgt. 1st Class Michele A. Brock

Brock was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation from President Barack Obama and the Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement from Army Secretary Gen. George W. Casey Jr.

A native of Kingston, Jamaica, Brock graduated from the Convent of Mercy Academy Alpha and enlisted in the Army in 1989. She served five overseas tours – two in Germany, two in Iraq and one in Alaska – and numerous stateside assignments.

Her previous awards include the Bronze Star, Army Commendation, Achievement and Good Conduct medals and Global War on Terrorism and Kuwaiti Liberation medals among other.

She holds an associate’s degree in general studies from Central Texas College and a bachelor’s in criminal justice from Troy State University.

Brock ends her career as a senior supply sergeant with the 20th Support Command, CBRNE. She retires Aug. 31 with 20 years of service.

Her plans include moving to Newport News, Va., and spending more time with her son, Sye D. Bennefield Jr.

“I’m just glad it’s over,” Brock said. “My time at APG was fun thanks to the wonderful people I worked with, but now all I plan to do is relax and spend time with my son.

“It was a good twenty years,” she added, “even with the two deployments to Iraq. I’ve been very fortunate, and I want to thank all the co-workers and friends who’ve always been there for me.”

Maj. William Mott, chief of the Human Capital Support Branch, Defense Intelligence Agency, and former G-1, 20th SUPCOM, returned to APG just for



**Sgt. 1st Class
Michele A. Brock**

Brock’s retirement. He said she was one of the most positive and upbeat Soldiers he’s worked with.

“She’s always had a bright outlook on her military career and on life,” he said. “And she could make you laugh even when you were angry. She’s a good friend and a very good Soldier.”

Karin A. Hancock

Hancock was awarded the DA Superior Civilian Service Award by the Deputy Chief of Staff and the DA Certificate of Retirement.

Hancock was born on APG and resided there during most of her childhood. Her father was a career ordnance Soldier. She also lived in Fort Knox, Ky., and in Germany.

She graduated from Edgewood High School in 1967 and from Harford Community College with an associate in Business Administration.

Hancock’s federal career began in 1968 in the Civilian Personnel Office at the former Edgewood Arsenal. Working her way up through the ranks, she served as an AMC intern, management-employee relations specialist; staffing specialist; and human resource development specialist. Along with her many accomplishments, Hancock was commended for her involvement in the recent implementation of the Army’s Civilian Education System within CHRA, the planning and execution of a Northeast Region Leadership Program and the conducting of Human Resource Development related courses for Army-wide audiences.

Her numerous awards include the Commander’s Award for Civilian Service and other special acts, performance and service awards.

She resides in Edgewood with her husband Danny, who retired from APG in 2005. They have one daughter, Stacy, and two grandchildren, Ashley and Ryan.

She said her plans include vacationing at Rehoboth, Del., and spending time



Karin A. Hancock

with her grandchildren.

Hancock said her career went fast and described it as full of “changes and growth.”

“It’s been challenging, exciting and memorable,” she said. “I made a lot of friends who were more than just co-workers, and I’ve witnessed a lot of changes at APG.

She added thanks to “all the different supervisors and directors who guided me through my career.”

“And now,” she said, “it’s time for me to stop and smell the roses for awhile.”

Gerard (Gary) T. Warwick

Warwick was awarded the DA Superior Civilian Service Award and DA certificates of Retirement and Appreciation.

Warwick was born in Baltimore and grew up in Denton, Md. He graduated from Charlotte Hall Military Academy in 1967 and received his commission in the U.S. Army at Western Kentucky University in 1971. He served in Germany, Arizona and California before entering the Army Reserve in 1977, where he stayed until retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1999.

Warwick’s civil service career began in 1977 as an employee with the Maryland Army National Guard as a training officer and computer programmer.

In 1980 he began working for what now is RDECOM as a COBOL computer programmer. Over the years he transitioned to a “C” computer programmer and then to a team of Web developers. In 1997 he moved into a staff support role coordinating IT support to a customer base of approximately 2,400 Edgewood Area computer users. He completed his government career as a staff officer within the RDECOM G6 office.

Warwick retired June 1 with 37 years of service. He plans to move to Rehoboth Beach, Del.

He and his wife Mary Jo have two grown sons, Gerry, an electrical engineer at Freddie Mac and Jeff, a computer scientist at the Edgewood Chemical Bio-



Gerard (Gary) T. Warwick

logical Center.

Declining to thank anyone for fear of leaving a name out, Warwick simply said that his 33 years at APG were “great.”

“There’s too many to thank. It’s nice to be moving on but I am leaving one son behind at ECBC,” he said. “My new job is to make sure my wife gets up and off to work.”

Dr. Steven I. Baskin

During a retirement ceremony at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Dr. Steven I. Baskin retired after a 27-year career.

Baskin was a pharmacologist/toxicologist and an expert on the chemical warfare agent cyanide, whose research contributed to the development of therapeutics and diagnostics for cyanide intoxication.

Col. Harry F. Slife, commander of MRICD, called Baskin “a true patriot” for dedicating his career to the defense of his county and for continually contributing to the chemical defense research program.

Former MRICD commander, Dr. Gennady Platoff, scientific advisor and assistant director of Biodefense Research at the National Institute of Health, described Baskin as “incredibly imaginative.”

During the ceremony, Baskin was awarded the Department of the Army Commander’s Award for Civilian Service, the DA Certificate of Achievement and the MRICD Certificate of Achievement and commander’s coin as well as two former commander’s coins and a coin from Maj. Matthew Clark, deputy chief of capability integration, Army Asymmetric Warfare Office, G-3 at the Pentagon.

Baskin received his Ph.D. in pharmacology and toxicology from Ohio State University in 1971. He conducted post-doctoral training at Michigan State and worked as an associate professor at the Medical College of Pennsylvania before being recruited by MRICD in 1982.

22d Chemical bids farewell to one of its own



Photo by MAJ JOE SCROCCA

After 25 years of dedicated service, 1st Sgt. Scott J. Boatman makes his way through the gauntlet of dragon Soldiers from the 22d Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort) who bid him an emotional farewell prior to his retirement ceremony on Aberdeen Proving Ground in May.

Martinez

From page 2

Martinez visited a Miami recruiting center. At that time she was working as a certified nurse’s assistant, going to school, trying to become a model... and things weren’t working out.

So, she raised her hand.

Martinez has since traveled around the world. After completing basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and advanced individual training at Fort Gordon, Ga.,

she was assigned to Mannheim, Germany, for two years, which included a short tour to Kuwait with the 7th Signal Brigade.

She took a follow-on overseas assignment to Korea for 13 months, and then reenlisted for retraining in her current job specialty. She then ramped up at the National Training Center and deployed to Iraq for 15 months with 3rd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division.

“It’s worked out for me. I’ve developed a lot of pride in what I do. I’m glad I did it, and I now plan to be a career Soldier,” Mar-

tinez said, thumbing the Officer Candidate School packet she was about ready to submit.

“Airborne school has to come in there somewhere,” she added, underscoring her desire to remain a Hooah! Soldier.

“I believe in myself,” she explained. “As I continue to create and explore opportunities, I know things will work out.”

Her professional development is clearly evident to others.

“She has been diligent about requesting increased responsibility and has consistently per-

formed above and beyond her grade,” said her supervisor, Blood. “She’s focused on accomplishment of the mission and the welfare of her Soldiers.”

“As senior NCOs, we provide opportunities for our Soldiers to succeed,” Bogad said. “It is our duty to help them realize their own potential, which is usually more than they thought they had. Sergeant Martinez inspires others through her example. She sets the standard for excellence. She achieves all you put before her, and all she puts her mind to.”

“She’s definitely got her mind

in right place,” added Bedoya, a young and newly promoted NCO. “She can do so much more. I look at her and think ‘That’s someone I could emulate.’”

“I just want to positively influence people,” Martinez said. “I feel like I owe that to Soldiers, my peers and anybody I can motivate to go to school, to work on their PT, or just try a little harder in whatever situation they’re in. I feel like I owe that to people because leaders have given that to me so freely.

“Besides, who am I not to share?”

Community and APG: Partners in Education



Nadja Rhodes, an Aberdeen High School senior who attends the Science and Mathematics Academy, explains her project to Albert Price, a parent of an SMA student, during SMA's gallery walk of senior capstone projects May 19.



James Pritts discusses his senior capstone project with Alison Eidsmore, a parent of a SMA student.

APG mentors help SMA students with capstone projects

Story and photos by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

A graduating class of 43 students from Aberdeen High School's Science and Mathematics Academy displayed and presented their senior capstone projects to peers, mentors and teachers during a gallery walk on the evening of May 19, a week before they graduated from SMA.

The senior capstone projects were the result of a year-long research class in which the students worked closely with a mentor who was a professional scientist, mathematician or engineer.

This year, 17 SMA students received mentors from Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The students showed off their poster displays and explained their projects in a gallery-type forum while five other students — James Pritt, Gabrielle Stearn, Melanie Kirkpatrick, Stephen Albert and Julianna Dunbar waited to make presentations in the auditorium.

The senior capstone project was created to accomplish three major purposes for the students:

- Integrate science, mathematics and technology in an authentic way.
 - Provide for interaction with the professional science community.
 - Allow for individual inquiry and discover using tools, techniques and valid protocol inherent in real research.
- The mentors volunteered their time to guide students and impact their expertise in an area that they are interested in studying. Many students chose a project in a field of study that they want to pursue in college.

sue in college.

Several students earned scholarships as a result of their academic achievements while attending SMA.

Ashley Eidsmore, a senior at SMA said that she felt her education has prepared her for work she would like to pursue in the future. Her capstone project was the development of a guinea pig's (*Cavia porcellus*) brain atlas.

Eidsmore's mentor was Dr. John McDonough, from the U.S Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense.

Eidsmore said that there is sparse literature on the structure of a guinea pig brain, unlike other rodents such as mice or rats. Her goal was to update the guinea pig brain atlas, by providing more details.

"Doing the capstone project was a good experience," she said. "I learned how to do research in a laboratory. I also learned how to budget my time in an effective manner. These are skills I will need in the future."

Eidsmore added that in the fall she will be attending Purdue University to study mechanical engineering.

She added that she recently received a top scholarship from the International Test and Evaluation Association.

"I definitely think that my experience at SMA helped me earn the scholarship," she said.

Eidsmore's mother, Alison Eidsmore, said that she felt her daughter received an excellent education by attending SMA.

"I think that these students are beyond prepared," she said. "I am impressed."

Tracy Newman, who works for Edge-

wood Chemical Biological Center's Corporate Communications, said that she was impressed with the students' organization and articulation of the projects.

"Each of the students offered an impressive and well-articulated summary of their respective projects," Newman said. "Not only are the students academically successful, they are excellent public speakers as well."

Newman added that Stephen Sanner, a senior mentored by ECBC's Dr. Way Fountain, discussed his capstone project, "Designing an Archival Ink," with an audience of potential ECBC mentors during a luncheon in April at ECBC's Berger Laboratory Complex.

Representing mentors who will begin working with SMA students this fall, Dr. Vipin Rastogi of ECBC's Research and Technology Directorate also attended the celebration.

Gareth Davis, a science teacher at SMA said that the teachers and the administration are grateful to have support from the community, especially supporting the mentorship program.

"It is fantastic that the mentors give their time to make a difference in the students' education," he said.

"We are blessed in terms of location," he added, referring to the school's close proximity to APG.

SMA coordinator Donna Clem said that she was proud of the work of the students.

"As you graduate from the SMA and your journey continues, there is no Garmin to guide you," Clem said during the event.

"Instead, be confident that your acquired knowledge, experiences and grit will allow you to persevere and stay the course."

Clem added that the SMA class of 2009 will be receiving nearly \$4.2M in total scholarship money.

After the gallery walk there was a program celebrating SMA's class of 2009, where special awards were given out.

Brian Simmons, director of the U.S. Army Evaluation Center, and the 2009 inductee into the Aberdeen High School Hall of Fame, gave remarks during the program. (See article below on Simmons' induction.)

Simmons said that he was encouraged by the enthusiasm and motivation of the students, adding they have a bright future ahead of them.

"I challenge you to think big," Simmons said. "Think of education as a life-long experience."

For more information about the academic program, visit the SMA Web site, www.scienceandmathacademy.com.

Special awards

- Jaquelyn Booth - *C. Warren Mullins Award for Leadership*
 - Alexandra Lowery - *Robert L. Johnson Award for Perseverance*
 - Melanie Kirkpatrick - *Dr. Bill Richardson Award for Creative Vision*
 - Sara Laskowski - *Donna M. Clem Award for the Spirit and Purpose of the SMA*
 - Richard Landon - *Dr. Dennis L. Kirkwood Award for Exceptional Work Ethic*
- See SMA, page 14

Director of AEC inducted into Aberdeen High School's Hall of Fame

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Aberdeen High School recognized two alumni for their career achievements and community involvement by inducting them into the AHS Hall of Fame April 27. One of the inductees is an Aberdeen Proving Ground employee.

Brian Simmons, director of the U.S. Army Evaluation Center, was recognized as being one of the driving forces behind the establishment of AHS's Science and Math Academy in 2004. SMA is a renowned science technology engineering and mathematics, or STEM academy and magnet program. Simmons also served on the APG Science and Technology Board.

At APG, he is responsible for ensuring that Army and Office of Secretary of Defense senior leaders have the essential information required before weapons and equipment are placed into the hands of Soldiers and throughout the lifecycle of those systems. He directs the evaluation for more than 50 weapons programs through an 800-person workforce and a \$140 million budget.

"Simmons was humbly appreciative of Bob McGee, an Aberdeen High School teacher who nominated him, along with Donna Clem, the director of the Science and Math Academy," said Eileen Campbell, APG school liaison.

During the induction, Simmons thanked his wife, mother and son, who he noted was "more like me than you know."

Simmons encouraged the AHS students to "Find something you like to do, and be all that you can be!"

During the ceremony Simmons was recognized as being a dedicated student while attending AHS, and active member in football track, weight lifting and wrestling. He was also inducted into the National Honor Society.

Richard Slutzky, who was Simmons' wrestling coach, recalled that Simmons excelled in academic studies and athletics.

"His modesty does not reveal his dedication and hard work. He always did



Brian Simmons, director of the U.S. Army Evaluation Center, stands beside a painting of himself by Richard Morris, an Aberdeen High School teacher, during the AHS Hall of Fame induction ceremony April 27.

what he could to serve," he said.

Simmons later said that Slutzky, who is now a Harford County Councilman, inspired him and helped him develop his leadership skills. Simmons said that he challenged young men and women to develop a strong work ethic and a positive attitude.

Simmons added that he and his wife attended AHS, and that both received a quality education and met a diverse group of people as a result of attending the school.

"My wife and I both had a positive impression of AHS long before SMA was established," he said. "I learned from

going to AHS that everyone counts," he said. "I have a good feeling that the social interactions I experienced by attending AHS had a big difference on how I viewed things over time."

Simmons said that he is pleased with the success of the SMA program and the involvement of the APG mentors.

"There doesn't seem to be any shortage of quality mentors for these students," he said.

Simmons added that he feels like the SMA students are a motivated group of students.

"I am so happy at what that group has done, and when I spoke at the SMA gal-

lery walk, I saw very talented people ready to get something done," he said.

Simmons added that the SMA program is important, especially since there has been a decline of students studying the STEM subjects in colleges and universities in the United States.

"SMA acts as a strategic launching pad into the most prestigious colleges and universities, with most students planning to pursue [research and development] careers when they graduate. This is a powerful thing, especially at a time when our nation really needs it," he said.

Simmons said that APG is a premier research, development and testing installation for the Army that has a growing need for employees that have specialized degrees in the STEM subjects. He hopes that SMA students will consider working at APG in the future.

Simmons said that he is happy to see that SMA has seen tremendous support in the community and at APG.

"It just makes me smile to see how people are supporting this program," he said.

Simmons said that he believes in the importance of education and encourages his young workforce to pursue graduate degrees, adding that 10 percent of the ATEC workforce is in graduate school, at the expense of the organization.

"I am a huge believer in growing your own workforce," he said.

The AHS Hall of Fame was established in 2006 to recognize AHS graduates who are a positive mentor/role model to youth, demonstrate commitment to the community and demonstrate exceptional ability to his or her field. Cal Ripken Sr. and Cal Ripken Jr. are among those who have been inducted into the AHS Hall of Fame.

The other inductee was Amy Wood, a 1982 AHS graduate and the head coach of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase field hockey team, one of the most prestigious teams in the state.

"I am honored to be among the others who are in the AHS Hall of Fame," Simmons said. "A lot of great people came out of Aberdeen, and I think that the AHS Hall of Fame is a great idea."

FMWR travel expo highlights local travel and leisure options

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Hundreds of Aberdeen Proving Ground employees and service members learned about local travel and leisure options during the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Travel Expo held at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center May 20.

Vendors from around the region had information on entertainment and vacation choices from day trips to weekend getaways to Family vacations.

Shayna Buchanelli and Rhonda Little, FMWR recreation assistants, said that they tried to make this year's show different by having a "passport" for each attendee as an incentive to visit all the vendors. Visitors were asked to get signatures of vendors in exchange for a chance to win door prizes.

Buchanelli said that visitors also liked the free snacks and musical performances by Fire 4 Effect, part of the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band and Timmy D's Marvelous Three, a jazz trio from Philadelphia.

"This year we tried to offer more for attendees, and I think that they really enjoyed the event," Little said.

Buchanelli said that the wine tasting vendor from Paradox Vineyard from southeastern Pennsylvania was a popular addition to this year's expo. Attendees could taste and order specialty wines that are made on the premises. Paradox Vineyard hosts special events like concerts and wine tastings. For more information, visit www.paradox.com.

Cindy Rohrbaugh, a sales manager from the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center, located in Gettysburg Pa., said that Gettysburg is a great weekend getaway, about 75 miles away from APG.

Rohrbaugh added that visiting Gettysburg is a good opportunity for children to learn about history first hand.

"It is a great Family destination," she said. Rohrbaugh added that military groups frequently stay at the Eisenhower Hotel for conferences.

"Having a conference at the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center is an alternative to having a conference at the Baltimore/Washington area, and it is much cheaper," she said.

Chris Dudding, a marketing and sales director from Ski Roundtop, said that Ski Roundtop, located in south-central Pennsylvania, offers many activities that are new for this summer, including The Vertical Trek-a high intensity, two- and one-half hour guided tour that begins with a peaceful chairlift ride to the mountaintop before leading trekkers down the mountain on zip-lines, rappelling walls, Tarzan swings, cargo nets, rope bridges and a rope mesh tube.

Ski Roundtop also has a two-story tree house, Revolution Paintball, Flying Leap Ropes Course for groups and OGO Balls-11-foot inflatable balls with a rider's compartment.

There are also options for younger children like bumper boats or The Woods adventure park has activities similar to The Vertical Trek, only lower to the ground and surrounded by shredded rubber flooring, and even summer "snow" tubing where riders slip down artificial turf for a ride similar to snow tubing.

"Ski Roundtop offers unique summer activities, and it is a good alternative to an amusement park, offering thrills and adventure in a wooded, mountain setting," Dudding said.

Visit www.skiroundtop.com for more information and for special events.

Betty Sensabaugh, who was representing the Office of Tourism for Carroll County in northern Maryland, said that Carroll County offers a quick getaway for Maryland residents. History buffs can enjoy a Civil War driving tour, and there are walk-



Alex Karat, who works in sales for Paradox Vineyard, shows Matthew Aughey, a graphic artist for Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, samples of the vineyard's wine during FMWR's travel expo held at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center May 20.

ing and bike tours that appeal to all ages.

Sensabaugh added that there are special events in Carroll County for visitors and residents throughout the year. To find out more about Carroll County, go to www.carroll-countytourism.org.

For those who wish to avoid driving, Bill Rohrbaughs's Charter Service, Inc. had information on various day and multi-day trips. Visit www.rohrbaughs.com for more information.

Other Baltimore area vendors present were the Maryland Zoo, the National Aquarium of Baltimore, the B&O Railroad Museum and the Baltimore Orioles.

APG Orioles fans are invited to attend Military Appreciation Night at Oriole Park Aug. 2, to see the Baltimore Orioles vs. the Boston Red Sox, according to promotions representative Jackie Olup. Cost includes picnic, player or coach appearance (subject to availability), prizes and giveaways and a visit by the Oriole Bird. Tickets (\$38 to \$73) are for military, Depart-

ment of Defense civilians and Families. Reservations or ticket purchases can be made at the Travel and Leisure Office, or for group orders, contact Olup, 410-547-6083.

Staff Sgt. Melinda Rodriguez Puente, who works for U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, and a mother of four, said that she visited the travel expo to learn about the local travel opportunities. Rodriguez Puente said that she moved to Harford County last year, and that she is looking forward to taking her children to the Maryland Zoo as it is an activity that all age groups can enjoy.

"Whenever I move I get membership to the zoo," she said. "I always want to support the local zoo."

Jane Scheffsky, group sales manager for the Maryland Zoo, said that a zoo membership pays for itself in fewer than two visits. Go to www.marylandzoo.org for more information.

Jack Chotikul, a computer information technology specialist from the Directorate of

Information Management who is also new to the area, said that he attended to get more information on local getaways.

"I found the event very organized and I like the location," he said.

Other vendors at the travel expo included Stowaway Grand Hotel in Ocean City, Choice Hotel Groups, Cool Drink Systems, Port Discovery, Fast Airport Parking, Best Western Charlottesville Airport Inn and Suites, Medieval Times, Crown Plaza Baltimore, Entertainment Cruises, Kings Dominion and Six Flags America.

Many of the vendors such as the National Aquarium of Baltimore and Six Flags America, offer discounts year round at the FMWR Travel and Leisure Office, located in the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

For information about official or leisure travel, vacation or entertainment options, contact FMWR Leisure Travel Services, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR_LeisureTravel@apg.army.mil

Community Notes

FRIDAY JUNE 12 MARGARITAVILLE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Margaritaville Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). Set sail with island tunes and light refreshments. Margaritas, beer and soda included. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

SATURDAY JUNE 13 TEXAS HOLD'EM

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, invites the public to a Texas Hold'em event, noon to 11 p.m. Register at noon and 5 p.m. The first game starts at 1 p.m., the second game starts at 6 p.m. with a \$50 buy in; first-come, first-served. Side games, a cash bar and shrimp salad, chicken and meatball sandwiches will be available. For more information, call 410-642-2771.

HAVANA NIGHT CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Havana Night Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m. aboard the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Enjoy Cuban appetizers along with Cuba's national drink the Mojito, beer, sodas and light refreshments. Cost is \$40 per person. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

SUNDAY JUNE 14 BENEFIT CONCERT FOR FAMILIES OF VICTIMS

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center friends encourage all to attend a concert at the Green Turtle in Aberdeen (near the Holiday Inn) 1 to 8 p.m. to benefit the Families of three ATC employees. Mark Henry and Joe Gray lost their lives and Doug Mauzy remains in the Burn Unit at Johns Hopkins Bayview as a result of a tragic accident at APG May 21.

The Green Turtle will be donating 10 percent of all proceeds from the day and the entire \$10 cover charge for the music. The waiters and waitresses will be donating 50 percent of their tips.

23RD ANNUAL CELTIC FESTIVAL

Steppingstone Museum, located on 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace, will host an annual Celtic Festival, noon to 5 p.m. Cost of admission is \$5 for adults and free for children 12 and under and members, and includes the Loch Raven Pipes and Drums, sheep shearing and sheepherding demonstrations, spinning and weaving, Bonnie Wylie's Highland Dancers, amateur highland games competitions, vendors, food and more.

For more information or directions, call the museum office, 410-939-2299 or toll-free, 1-888-419-1762; e-mail steppingstone@msn.com or visit Web site www.steppingstonemuseum.org.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

FAMILY NIGHT ON THE BAY

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer Family Night on the Bay, 5 to 6:30 p.m. aboard the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Treat the Family to a night on the bay with pizza, beverages and water ice. Cost is \$15 per person. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

MONDAY JUNE 15 GUNPOWDER TOASTMASTER'S CLUB MEETING

Learn to speak confidently and effectively. Toastmaster's mission is to help people improve their communication, leadership, evaluation, and public-speaking skills in a fun, friendly and supportive environment. The Gunpowder Toastmaster's Club meets the first and third Monday every month (except federal holidays) in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility in building E-4516 Seminar Room.

June 15 is the next meeting, 11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.

For more information, contact Adam Freeland, 410-652-8026 or George Alsfeld, 410-569-1189.

STORYTIME CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Storytime Cruise, 7 to

8:30 p.m. on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Enjoy a sail accompanied with children's stories for ages 3 to 8. Tickets cost \$10 per person. Reservations are required. For more information, for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 17 NATURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT PLAN UPDATED

The Department of Planning and Zoning will host a public meeting/poster session, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., on the updated the Natural Resources Element Plan to obtain public input on the draft plan. The meeting will be held at Harford Community College, Edgewood Hall, room E-132. The plan incorporates a new section on water resources describing the county's ability to meet current and future drinking water and wastewater needs.

The public may view exhibits on the plan and submit comments. The draft plan may be viewed on the County's Web site at www.harfordcountymd.gov/planningzoning.

For more information, or for disability related accommodations, call Pat Pudelkewicz, Department of Planning and Zoning, 410-638-3135, or e-mail ppudelkewicz@harfordcountymd.gov.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)

SMA

From page 13

List of APG Mentors and SMA students

- Dr. Michael Quinn, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine - Elizabeth Blasdell
- Michael Padovani, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center - Nathan Bour
- Dr. Jim Bailey, APG Directorate of

Safety, Health & Environment - Kimberly Capers

- Dr. Benedict Capacio, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense - Julianna Dunbar
- Dr. John McDonough, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense - Ashley Eidsmore
- Dr. John McDonough, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense - Cory Harrop
- Dr. Shane Bartus, U.S. Army Research Laboratory - Albert Hewitt

• Dr. Douglas Cerasoli, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense - Melanie Kirkpatrick

• Dr. Mark Johnson, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine - Sara Laskowski

• Paul Moy, U.S. Army Research Laboratory - James Pritts

• Dr. Margaret Hurley, U.S. Army Research Laboratory - Nadja Rhodes

• Dr. Augustus Fountain, U.S. Army Research, Development, and Engineering Command - Stephen Sanner

• Dr. Deidre DeRoia, Directorate of Public Works, contractor - Erin Van Seeters

• Dr. Tusit Weeraooriya, U.S. Army Research Laboratory - Benjamin Ziemski

• Dr. Joel Kalb, U.S. Army Research Laboratory - Stephen Welborn

• Dr. Shasi Karna, U.S. Army Research Laboratory - Alexander Wachsmann

• Suzanne Brady, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity - Andrew Thacker

Asian-Pacific Americans celebrated during annual commemoration



The Pacific Islanders from left, Charlotte Harris, Tiera Harris, Carrina Pena, Kiana Williams, Celicia Pena, Cierra Pena and Liz Williams perform a traditional Tahitian dance during the Asian-Pacific ceremony May 12.

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Asian-Pacific culture was celebrated with song, dance, exotic food and colorful artifacts during the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month observance at the Edgewood Area Stark Recreation Center May 12.

To open the program, Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim gave the invocation, and Sgt. Anthony Gentilo from the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band sang the national anthem.

Bernadita Schech, a human resources specialist with the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, G-1, was the mistress of ceremonies.

Schech said that Asian-Pacific Americans are a diverse group of people and encompass many different languages, religions and cultural traditions. Asian Americans include sub-ethnic groups such as Chinese Americans, Filipino Americans, Indian Americans, Vietnamese Americans, Korean Americans, Japanese Americans and others whose national origin is from the Far East Asia, Southeast Asia and Indian sub-continent. Pacific-Islander Americans include those of Polynesian, Micronesian and Melanesian cultural backgrounds which includes Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, Tahiti, New Zealand and many other islands.

After Schech's remarks, there was a fashion show displaying attire from some of the Asian countries and Pacific islands.

Following the fashion show, Capt. Russell Untalan, from 20th Support Command, sang four Hawaiian songs while playing the ukulele and the guitar. He dedicated his last song to Soldiers and civilians who are deployed.

After Untalan's songs, his wife, Diane Untalan, danced a hulu dance, "Palehua." This dance tells the story about a majestic mountain called Palehua, whose breezes are so gentle and fragrance so enchanting, it was unveiled to the heavens.

Untalan also performed the "Etui/Terina." This dance medley comes from the island of New Zealand. The first song tells about the attractive Tui Bird, whose vibrant colors and beautiful melodies can be heard throughout the jungle forests. The second song offers a blessing to a little girl, Terina, praying that she will grow and grace. This is danced with the Maori Poi ball, and was used many years ago by the indigenous Maori people of New Zealand to increase their flexibility and strength in their hands and arms as well as improve coordination.

A visiting Asian-Pacific dance group, The Pacific Islanders, also performed several dances, like the Hano Hano dance with split bamboo sticks that keep rhythm, and the Hawaiian War Chant, a traditional Hawaiian dance with feathered gourds.

After the dance performance, Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, garrison and deputy installation commander, gave remarks

stating that Asian-Pacific Americans represent approximately two centuries of immigration to America from more than 50 countries and islands.

"We appreciate the unique qualities of Asian-Pacific Americans," he said. "They speak many languages, honor countless traditions and practice different faiths, but they share a commitment to freedom and liberty. We especially honor those Asian-Pacific Americans who protect the cause of freedom and serve in our armed forces. They set a powerful example for all Americans.

"As we learn more about people of different cultures, we start to get a better understanding of ourselves," he said. "We come to realize that there is more that unites us than divides us. And that is the essence of America."

Weissman introduced the guest speaker, David Lee, the executive director of the governor's office on Asian-Pacific American Affairs.

Lee was appointed executive director of the Governor's Office on Asian-Pacific American Affairs in May 2006. He is Gov. Martin O'Malley's liaison to more than 250,000 Maryland residents of Asian-Pacific American heritage. In this capacity, Lee has organized a number of events and initiatives to address the needs of the Asian-Pacific American community in such areas as business, healthcare, education, aging, and emergency preparedness. Recently, he led a coalition of community leaders to convene the first-ever Governor's Asian-Pacific American Summit in Annapolis, Md.

Lee said that since the Spanish-American War, Asian-Pacific Americans have risked or sacrificed their lives for their country,

and today Asian-Pacific Americans are making significant contributions in service to their country in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Lee said that retired Gen. Eric Shinseki, a Vietnam War veteran and former Army Chief of Staff, is one of three Asian-Pacific Americans serving in President Barack Obama's Cabinet.

"It is fitting to set aside a time each year to reflect on these contributions," Lee said. "It is an opportunity to educate and remind ourselves about the role that Asian-Pacific Americans play in the life of our nation today and the challenges that they have faced and overcome."

Lee added that it is important to celebrate America's diversity.

"It's important to recognize the great diversity of our nation, the history and background, the cultures and heritages, the struggles and accomplishments – not only recognize it, but to embrace it," Lee said. "Governor, Martin O'Malley often says, in Maryland, our diversity truly is our greatest strength."

After Lee's speech, Weissman thanked the program's organizers and participants and presented awards to the winners of the Asian-Pacific display contest. First place winner was Ladonna Sparks, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, and runner up was Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course Class 26-09 52D and 63B.

Weissman recognized committee members Linda Patrick, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine; Sgt. 1st Class Elwood Veney, RDECOM; Master Sgt. Michelle Davis, 20th Support Command; Master Sgt. Gail Brennan and Sgt. 1st Class David Pickett from the U.S. Army Ord-

nance Center and Schools; Staff Sgt. Wendy Spohn, U.S. Army Materiel Command Band; Linh Phan, Renu Rastogi, and Uday Metha from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center.

After the program, attendees sampled food from Asian-Pacific countries, including vegetable lo mein, teriyaki chicken, vegetable sushi from Japan, spicy green coriander chutney, tamarind chutney, and somosas from India, curry chicken, kimchee, vegetable pakora, and bulgogi fried rice, and chicken satay from Korea, chicken kelaguen, and Bibingka from Guam.

Diane Untalan, who is originally from Guam, said that she enjoys dancing because it is a way she can celebrate her culture with others.

"The military is made up of so much diversity so I think that events like these celebrating cultural diversity are important," she said. "I love to dance, and my culture is part of who I am."

Liz Williams, who leads The Pacific Islanders, which is composed of her family members, said that her group frequently performs for universities and for parties.

Sgt. Maj. Gerardo Soto from the 9th Area Medical Laboratory, said that he enjoyed the event.

"The organizers put a lot of effort into the program," Soto said. "It was educational as well as entertaining. I didn't know that the Pacific Islands are so diverse. I think that this [program] is a great opportunity to see the culture and to learn more."

The flyer, posters and programs were designed by Christine Graber, CHPPM photographer and videographer. The large Asian Heritage display was designed by Jason Embrey, CHPPM graphic artist.

Diane Untalan demonstrates a hulu dance, "Palehua." This dance tells the story about a majestic mountain called Palehua, whose breezes are so gentle and fragrance so enchanting, it was unveiled to the heavens.



Sgt. Maj. Gerardo Soto from the 9th Area Medical looks at a Guam exhibit.

Army observes Asian-Pacific Heritage Month

Story by
J.D. LEIPOLD
Army News Service

The Army observed Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month May 18 at the Pentagon with National Guard Soldier, Black Hawk pilot and Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran Ladda "Tammy" Duckworth serving as guest speaker in the Hall of Heroes.

Thailand-born Duckworth, the daughter of a Marine who served in Vietnam,

was appointed last month as assistant secretary of Veterans Affairs for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs. While on a combat mission in Iraq in 2004, her helicopter was shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade. As a result of the attack, she lost both legs and partial use of one arm. She continues to serve as a major with the Illinois National Guard.

"As Asian Americans we share a heritage we can all be proud of," she said. "America's heritage is rich because of the

presence of Asian Americans. It was one hundred fifty years ago that Asian Americans literally united this country from east to west with their labor when they built the railroads."

Duckworth recalled how she wouldn't be alive today had it not been for her helicopter crew made up of an Asian American, a Black American, a Caucasian and a Hispanic American.

"Just by the nature of who we were, our diversity sends a message around

the world of what a great country this is," she said, "a country of opportunity, of hope, of freedom and of the ability to be anything you want to be regardless of race or ancestry. Of that I'm proud."

Before introducing Duckworth, Lt. Gen. David H. Huntoon Jr., director of the Army Staff who hosted the ceremony, opened his remarks citing the contributions of Asian-Pacific Americans during World War II campaigns and how

See *HERITAGE*, page 18

Wife of Harford County Executive views youth photo winners

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Child, Youth and School Services honored the winners of the Image Makers photography contest with a photo display and Month of the Military Child talent show at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center April 24.

Special guest to the show was Melinda Craig, wife of Harford County Executive David Craig.

Norma Warwick of the Aberdeen Area Youth Center and APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez escorted Craig who was accompanied by Roxanne Lynch, director of the Harford County office of Government and Community Relations.

Prior to the show, Craig viewed a display of all entries followed by the announcement of first-place winners by Warwick.

Winning entries to the annual contest are sent to the Boys and Girls Clubs of America Regional Competition, said Renee Main of the Edgewood Area Youth Center, which awarded eight winners during an April 30 ceremony, four of which were forwarded to the regional competition.

“Our children are not only heroes, they are a very talented group,” Warwick said before announcing the winners.

Rodriguez and Craig congratulated the awardees and presented them with certificates of appreciation.

Craig said she was impressed with the youths’ creativity.

“We love art of any kind, and these are all so wonderful and creative,” she said.

Brianna Blancco, a 12-year-old finalist in the black and white category, said she prefers the “old time” look over color.

“I’ve taken pictures before but never for a contest,” she said. “I was surprised to do so well.”

Lynette Brown, who won first place in the age 10 to 12 digital category, said that although her first love is dancing, she participates in the contest every year.



Lynette Brown, digital, age 10 to 12, AAYC

“I just like taking pictures,” she said. “I’ll probably try again next year.”

First-place winners forwarded to the BGCA Image Makers Regional Competition:

Aberdeen Area

Digital

Romina Mitchell, age 9 and under
Lynette Brown, age 10 to 12
Charice Scruggs, age 13 to 15

Black & White

Brianna Blanco, age 10 to 12
Charice Scruggs, age 13 to 15

Alternative process

Charice Scruggs, age 13 to 15

Edgewood Area

Color processed (35 mm)

Sidney Alston-Hicks, age 9 and under
Tatyana Moon, age 10 to 12

Digital

Samantha Devorak, age 9 and under

About the Image Makers National Photography Contest

Since 1960, Image Makers has enabled the Boys & Girls Club members to develop interest and skills in photography.

It provides aspiring photographers the chance to express their creativity.

Members begin by competing in a

local contest from which winning entries are selected and then sent to regional judging events and exhibits. From there, photography images are selected for forwarding to BGCA national headquarters for the Image Makers National Photography Contest.

Forty-four national winners will be named and their photography will be displayed in a traveling exhibit at special BGCA events throughout the year.

Winners and finalists also receive special awards and certificates from BGCA headquarters.

For more information, visit the BGCA Web site, www.bgca.org.



Romina Mitchell , digital, age 9 and under, AAYC



Charice Scruggs, digital age 13 to 15, AAYC



Brianna Blanco, black & white, age 10 to 12, AAYC



Tatyana Moon, color processed, age 10 to 12, EAYC



Charice Scruggs , black & white, age 13 to 15, AAYC



Sidney Alston-Hicks, color processed, age 9 and under, EAYC



Charice Scruggs, alternative process age 13 to 15, AAYC



Marangely Quinones, Kids’ Choice award, age 10 to 12, EAYC



Hunter McColligan, Kid’s Choice award, age 6, EAYC



Samantha Devorak, digital, age 9 and under, EAYC



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Ski Roundtop Mountain Adventures

Ski Roundtop is not just for winter fun. Located at 925 Roundtop Road, Lewisberry, Pa., Ski Roundtop offers summer fun adventure that includes the Vertical Trek, Sky Ride and Bumper Boats and more.

The Vertical Trek, Sky Ride and bumper boats are open Wednesday through Sunday through Aug. 23; Beginning Aug. 29, activities are open weekends only, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Vertical Trek takes 2.5 hours to complete; it begins with a chairlift ride to the top of the mountain, then participants descend more than 600 vertical feet using a series of zip lines (up to 300 feet in length), rapelling, rope bridges, tarzan swings, cargo nets and scenic walks.

Reservations are strongly recommended. The Vertical Trek is for ages 10 and up. All participants must weigh between 70 and 250 lbs. Tickets cost \$44 each.

For more information or to make reservations, call 717-432-9631, ext. 3723.

Adventure Packages are also available for adults ages 11 through 64 at \$34 per person and for children ages 5 through 10, at \$24 per person and include admission for one OGO ball ride, summer tubing, treehouse zips, the woods, bumper boats and sky rides.

There is a 250-pound weight limit to ride in the OGO ball.

For more information about Ski Roundtop Mountain Adventures, visit www.skiroundtop.com/rma.htm.

2009 Army Arts and Crafts Contest

The Army Arts and Crafts Contest is an annual, juried competition of two and three dimensional artwork held in sepa-

Ruggles Golf Course grand re-opening features 3 days of giveaways, golf events, open to the public

June 19

Demonstration Day, 12:30 to 7:30 p.m. events include a ribbon cutting ceremony at 1:30 p.m. The Sutherland Grill will provide food and refreshments. A complimentary 9-hole Golf Scramble will be held 2:30 p.m.; a tasting event 5 to 7 p.m.; and a Long Drive Contest on the driving range, 6:30 p.m.

June 20

Complimentary tips from the pro's takes place 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. There will be a two-Man Scramble Outing, 9 a.m.; Shotgun Putting Contest for \$1 million hole-in-one prizes; four technical prizes – Longest Drive, Closest to Pin.

Sutherland Grill will provide continental breakfast and lunch. U.S. Open golf coverage will be displayed on HD TVs.

June 21 Golf with Dad special

Recognize dad this year by bringing him to Ruggles Golf Course for a morning of golf. Cost for private through sergeant (active duty) is \$50 per person; sergeant first class through captain (active duty) is \$60 per person; and for all other authorized patrons is \$65. Prices include greens fee, golf cart and Sunday Brunch, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., provided by Top of the Bay. Sunday Brunch costs \$20 for adults, \$10 for children ages 5 to 12 and children ages

5 and under eat free.

Sunday Brunch includes an omelet station; scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, waffles or French toast; carving station with ham and beef; two vegetables, starch, salad and dessert. Refreshments will be provided by the clubhouse.

For more information or to RSVP by June 11, call 410-278-4794, or e-mail debra.long1@us.army.mil.



rate groups for novice and accomplished artists and artisans. All authorized patrons of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation are eligible to enter.

Rules for submission of entries, as well as entry forms can be downloaded from <https://artscrafts.fmwrc.army.mil>, or at the Arts and Crafts Centers.

Entries must be submitted to Arts and Crafts Center, building 2407, 410-278-4207 no later than 4 p.m., June 30.

Occoquan Spring Festival

Visit the annual Historic Occoquan Spring Arts and Crafts Festival, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 7, located on 200 Mill Street, Occoquan, Va., in northern Virginia. Cost is \$39 per person and includes roundtrip

bus transportation. Join in the tradition of the Arts and Crafts Show featuring more than 350 juried artists and craft vendors, food and live entertainment.

Amateur Boxing Night June 20

Better than the 'Thrilla in Manila.' See the 16th Ordnance Battalion hit the ring June 20 at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center, building 3330. Doors open 6 p.m., the event begins at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military; \$10 for nonmilitary; and \$20 for ringside seats. Children under 6 are admitted free.

This event is open to the public.

Purchase tickets at FMWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907

or Stark Recreation Center, building E4140, 410-436-2713.

CYSS Youth Soccer registration

Youths ages 4 through 14 can register for boys and girls soccer teams. Walk-in registration will be held 7:30 to 10 a.m., through June 29; appointments are needed for registration 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; call Aberdeen Area Central Registration, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479, or call John Lee, 410-436-7131, Edgewood Area Youth Center, building E-1902.

Age groups include 4 to 5; 6 to 7; 8 to 9; 10 to 11; and 13 to 14 (age as of July 31, 2009). Games will be held Saturdays and practices held weeknights. Practices begin the week of July 27.

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

American Kickboxing

SKIES Unlimited offers American Kickboxing, taught by instructor U.S.K.B.A. Fighter Kyo Sa Nim Sean Williams.

American Kickboxing is also called Full-Contact Kickboxing. It differs from Muay Thai or Thai Boxing in that kicks to legs, elbow, and knee strikes are not allowed in competition.

Kickboxing promotes body toning, increase flexibility, and increase concentration levels, positive self-confidence level and self-discipline. Kickboxing Enhances martial art ability, fighting ability, and self-defense ability with strength and power.

American Kickboxing classes will be held for ages 10 through 18 at the Child, Youth and School Services, building 2522, 7 to 8 p.m., Aug. 17 through 20. Cost is \$35 per student.

Students must wear a white T-shirt and sweat pants. Class size is limited so register early.

Introduction to Tae Kwon Do

Join the Unity Tae Kwon Do School of Martial Arts at APG. Tae Kwon Do promotes discipline, as well as muscle toning and conditioning.

Introduction to Tae Kwon Do classes will be held for ages 6 through 13 at Child, Youth and School Services, building 2522, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Aug. 17 through 20. Cost is \$45 per student. Students must wear a white T-shirt and sweat pants. Class size is limited so register early.

Classes will be taught by instructor U.S.K.B.A. Fighter Kyo Sa Nim Sean Williams.

Tiny Tigers Tae Kwon Do

Children ages 3 to 5 (parent participation required) can join the Tiny Tigers Unity Tae Kwon Do School of Martial Arts at APG. Tae Kwon Do builds confidence and self-esteem in young students.

Classes will be held at the Child, Youth and School Center, building 2522, Monday and Wednesday, 5:30 to 6 p.m., July 6 through Aug. 12. Cost is \$40 per

parent/child pairing.

Students must wear a white T-shirt and sweat pants. Class size is limited to 12 parent and child pairings so register early.

Private piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 thru 18, 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., on Mondays, June 29 through Aug. 10 (no class July 13). Lessons cost \$102 per student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child. Students are responsible for purchasing the required books for the course recommended by the instructor.

SAT preparation classes offered

Child, Youth and School Services will hold Scholastic Aptitude Test preparation classes, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., July 20 through 24, at CYSS Administrative Offices, building 2752 Rodman Road for students in grades 9 through 12.

Open to all DoD ID card holder Family members.

Students can be a step ahead for the SAT. Classes will assist students in sharpening the verbal skills needed for being successful when taking the SAT. The class also prepares students for the SAT math exam, covering basic math skills including algebra and geometry. Problem solving, reasoning and test-taking techniques will also be covered.

Classes cost \$175 per student and includes textbook.

Ice skating lessons

SKIES Unlimited offers comprehensive group lesson program ice skating lessons for ages 4 through 18. Classes will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays, July 2 through Aug. 11 at Ice World in Abingdon.

Ice World's philosophy is to provide top notch, professional instruction for beginner through advanced skaters in a relaxed and fun environment. Learn to Skate is based on the fundamentals of the United States Figure Skating Association and is necessary for those wishing to proceed on to ice hockey or freestyle.

Each session includes six weeks of professional instruction; each session is 30 minutes long with 30-minute practice and weekly free skate rentals. Class sizes

are limited and are grouped by age and ability. Three free passes to public sessions are included.

Ice skating classes cost \$110 per student. There will be no make-up classes or refunds.

Free babysitting course

Become a certified babysitter after taking the free 4-H/Army Child and Youth Services babysitting class for ages 13 to 18.

The class will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., June 16 at the AA Child, Youth and School Services, building 2522. The objectives are to familiarize participants with the responsibilities of babysitting.

Class is open to all DoD ID card holders.

Driver's Ed

Driver's Ed classes will be held June 22 thru July 7; July 13 thru 28; and Aug. 3 thru 18 (there is no class on federal holidays), Monday thru Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.; 2:30 to 5:45 p.m.; or 6 to 9:15 p.m. Cost is \$315 per student.

All Drivers Education classes are conducted by Rules Driving School, Inc. Classes will be held in Aberdeen at the

Community Center, 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard, room 304.

Classes include 30 hours classroom instruction and 6 hours behind the wheel instruction.

The last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 and 18 years old. Parents must attend the first day of class. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Infant/Child First Aid, CPR Class

An Infant/Child First Aid and CPR class will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., for ages 13 and older, June 18, building 2752, Child and Youth Services administration building. The class costs \$5 per person.

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com.

All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.

June bowling specials

- In June, bowl 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, for \$1.25 per game plus \$2 for shoe rental or rent the lane for \$10 per hour, with shoe rental included.
- Buy a combo meal from the snack bar, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and get a free game. Shoe rental is not included.
- From 5 p.m. to closing, bowling costs \$2 per game plus \$2 for shoe rental or rent the lane for \$12 per hour, with shoe rental included.
- Cosmic Soldier specials on June 13 and 27 include one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza special and a pitcher of soda for \$32. Receive four free bowling passes when purchasing this special, to be used at a later date.
- Early Father's Day gift: All dads

bowl one free game of bowling, 4 p.m. to closing, June 20. All dads must be accompanied by at least one child. Games cost \$2.75 per game plus \$2 for shoe rental. Dad's shoes are free. Hourly bowling cannot be used with this offer.

Bowling party packages are available.

Youth bowling leagues are now forming. The league will bowl every Friday evening, July 10 through Aug. 21. For more information or to register, call the Bowling Center, 410-278-4041.

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday thru Thursday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday; and 4 to 10 p.m., Saturday. The Bowling Center is closed on Sundays.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday thru Thursday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday; and 4 to 10 p.m., Saturday; the Bowling Center is closed on Sundays.

Week of June 8

Special #1: Chicken tender wrap with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.75.

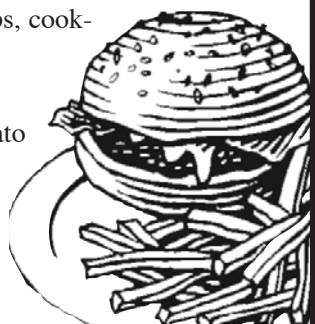
Special #2: Turkey club sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.95.

Week of June 15

Special #1: Double bacon cheeseburger with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.95.

Special #2: Crab cake platter with french fries, coleslaw, cookie and regular soda for \$9.95.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



New arrivals required to attend Newcomers' Orientation

All newly arriving Soldiers and civilian employees are required to attend the APG Newcomers' Orientation, 1 to 3 p.m., June 17 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Sponsors are encouraged to bring their Family members, and all members of the APG community are welcome to attend.

More than 50 APG community activities and organization representa-

tives will welcome arrivals with handouts and literature and will answer questions regarding their programs.

Each unit/activity is requested to report the number of attending personnel to Phyllis Ethridge, Army Community Service, building 2754, 410-278-9669/7572, fax 410-278-9685 or e-mail phyllis.ethridge@us.army.mil.



Army issues recall for some combat helmets

Story by
J.D. LEIPOLD
Army News Service

The Army has issued a recall of 34,218 Advanced Combat Helmets which failed ballistic tests.

The recall affects 15,380 Army helmets, 12,000 Air Force helmets and another 6,838 helmets which were never issued by Defense Logistics Agency.

The helmet shells are “absolutely safe and effective, that’s the bottom line” according to Lt. Col. Robert Myles, product manager for Soldier Survivability. The company that manufactured the recalled helmets, Gentex Corp., told the Army it believed the four screws which attach the chinstrap and related parts to the helmet did not conform to Army contract specifications.

Gentex alleged a subcontractor had falsified certificates of compliance related to the type of steel screws it furnished.

“Gentex made the mistake and corrected themselves by bringing it to the government and letting us know that their subcontractor had replaced the hardware with unauthorized hardware,” Myles said.

The screws failed the ballistics tests at temperatures of minus 60 degrees Fahr-

enheit and at temperatures above 160 degrees Fahrenheit. In those extreme conditions, rounds were fired directly at the screw heads.

“The four screws on the helmet combined represent less than one half of one percent of the total surface area of the helmet,” said Barry Hauck, deputy program manager for Soldier Survivability. “The temperature extremes sound severe, but that’s the requirement we put on the performance of these helmets. We establish requirements that far exceed the operational envelope they are going to eventually experience.”

“The minimal risk here this has is that you actually hit one of these screws because the helmet itself passed ballistic testing without any problems, it’s just the screw that needs to be replaced,” added Myles.

Gentex is one of four companies that manufacture the ACH. Of about 1.2 million ACHs that have been delivered to the Army, 297,000 have been produced by Gentex.

Myles said once the Army Criminal Investigation Division has completed its investigation, Gentex will absorb the costs and resources to change out the screws.



Panic on the highway!

Installation Safety Office

“Adventures in driving decision making” is brought to everyone by the Installation Safety Office.

Test your driving expertise in the following situation and then from the options provided, select the best answer. The answers are printed upside down.

Situation #36

You’re driving in the left lane of a divided six-lane highway. There are vehicles ahead, behind and to the right of you. Suddenly, your left front tire blows out. What should you do?

- A. Stay off brakes and steer firmly to gradual stop in emergency parking zone.
- B. Medium brake to stop as quickly as possible.

ANSWER A. “Stay off brakes and steer firmly to gradual stop in emergency parking zone” is the thing to do. Stay off the brakes if you possibly can, and if you have to brake, do it very gently. If you do any sudden or hard braking, chances are you’ll lose control.

ANSWER B. “Medium brake to stop as quickly as possible” is not what you want to do. Your instinctive action, whenever anything starts going wrong, is to hit the brakes and get yourself slowed down as fast as possible, but in this case that’s the worst thing to do. Sudden or hard braking will cause you to lose control. Go to Answer A.



Health Notes

H1N1 flu: plan now for fall and winter

Story by
LYN KUKRAL
U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Public health professionals at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine advise that summer is a good time to get ready for this year’s fall and winter flu season.

In summer, flu viruses, including H1N1 (formerly called swine flu) are less active in infecting those who live in the northern hemisphere, according to John F. Ambrose, the epidemiologist leading CHPPM’s flu surveillance efforts. In fall and winter, flu cases always increase, he said.

Scientists have a number of theories about why that’s the case.

“One theory is that social distancing decreases in fall and winter, when children go back to school and groups that have stopped meeting during the summer resume,” Ambrose explained. “It’s also easier for viruses to survive in fall and winter, when there’s less ultraviolet light.” (In lab work, UV light is one method scientists use to kill viruses and bacteria.)

Along with scientists at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization, CHPPM public health experts are uncertain of what to expect from H1N1 in the next flu season.

“There’s really no way to tell what H1N1 flu will do; expert opinions differ,” Ambrose said. “The best advice is, hope for the best, but plan for the worst.”

History provides examples of “best” and “worst” flu epidemic and pandem-

ic behaviors.

“Some have started out mild and then come back aggressively during flu season, causing serious illness and deaths,” Ambrose said. “Others just don’t come back or remain relatively mild.”

Given that it is unknown what H1N1 will do, making preparations at home and planning how to manage possible school closures and work-from-home is prudent.

Ambrose advises that the CDC and the Department of Health and Human Services are excellent and reliable sources of information for Soldiers and their Families. Both maintain Web sites with advice for coping with flu (URLs are at the end of this article). Preparedness starts with staying informed about H1N1 by checking these sources.

Basic tips

- At home, stock extra food, water and other emergency supplies—the CDC recommends two week’s worth of necessities.
- Keep a supply of non-prescription medications to treat flu and other common illnesses. Flu treatments could include cough and cold medicines, medicine to lower fever, pain relievers, stomach remedies and fluids with electrolytes.
- Ensure a continuous supply of any prescription medicines for Family and pets.
- Plan for childcare if schools are closed, and check your organization’s telework policies. Test telework procedures before needing to use them.

To date, CHPPM’s disease surveil-

lance of the Army population (active duty and Army health system beneficiaries) indicates that the majority of H1N1 cases have been mild with full recoveries, according to Lt. Col. Rodney Coldren, a physician and CHPPM’s disease surveillance program manager.

Like other flu, H1N1 spreads via the respiratory system, through close contact (6 feet or less) or by respiratory droplets on surfaces such as telephones, door knobs and desks, Coldren said.

A fortunate few may not even realize they have the H1N1 flu, but most will experience typical flu symptoms.

“H1N1 symptoms encompass the full spectrum of symptoms, from asymptomatic cases to full-blown fever, chills, headache and cough,” Coldren said. “So far, it’s exactly the same as seasonal flu.”

Preventive measures for flu are also available on the CHPPM, CDC, and HHS Web sites.

“Amazingly, the most effective preventive measure against flu, as well as other respiratory diseases and gastrointestinal diseases, is effective hand-washing,” Coldren emphasized. “Wash hands frequently—before eating, after using the bathroom, after smoking or any time you think you’ve come in contact with germs.”

Other preventive measures include covering the nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing, keeping distance from others who are ill and staying home from work or school when ill, he added.

If you think you have the flu, treatment at home is effective for the majority of cases, Coldren said

“There is usually no reason to seek

medical care, unless symptoms become severe,” he said. “If that happens—if you can’t take fluids and food or if you have trouble breathing—call your primary care provider for instructions on procedures.”

It’s important to contact a caregiver before going to the clinic or hospital, to ensure that caregivers are alerted that the patient may be infectious and can protect themselves and other patients, he added.

Coldren, Ambrose and their CHPPM colleagues are continuing Army-wide surveillance of cases, determining numbers and locations to help ensure that public health measures are in place where they are needed and to help ensure continued unit readiness.

CHPPM’s goal is to reduce the transmission of the disease and mitigate its severity in those Soldiers and beneficiaries who may get it. The sooner known cases are identified, the better for the individual, Family members, coworkers and the Army health system, Ambrose said.

For information on H1N1 activity, prevention and treatment, visit:

- CHPPM, <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil>
- PandemicFlu.gov, www.pandemic-flu.gov
- CDC, www.cdc.gov/swineflu/
- DOD Flu Watchboard, <http://fhpo.osd.mil/aiWatchboard/>

For specific information on numbers of H1N1 flu cases in the Army, contact the Office of the Chief of Army Public Affairs, pressdesk@hqda.army.mil or 703-692-2000.

Post Shorts

Public invited to APG Army Birthday Ball this Friday

The public is invited to the Army Birthday Ball, 6 p.m., June 12 at Top of the Bay on Aberdeen Proving Ground. Tickets cost \$45 per person and will include an evening of dinner, dancing, celebration and fun. Dress is mess dress for military, black tie for civilians, formal wear for ladies. No tickets will be available at the door.

For more information or to RSVP online, visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/Store/armyball.html>.

234th Army Birthday Specialty Meal June 15

The 234th Army Birthday Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30

to 7 p.m., June 15.

During this event all military personnel, Family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The meal rate of \$7 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and Family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilian, retiree and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$5.95 applies to spouses and other Family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The menu includes: buffalo wings with bleu cheese dressing, grilled steak with sautéed mushrooms and onions, broccoli cheese and rice casserole, barbecue ribs, pizza burger, chili dogs with cheese and onions, chicken tenders, grilled polish sausage, submarine sandwiches, freedom fries, onion rings, potato chips and pretzels, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, baked potato, baked sweet potato and all the fixings,

buttered corn, cauliflower combo, Southern style potato and macaroni salad, cole slaw with creamy dressing, assorted condiments, hot dinner rolls, corn bread, assorted breads, Army birthday cake, apple pie, big chocolate chip cookies, watermelon, assorted fresh fruits, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings, assorted condiments and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green, 410-306-1393/1398.

Blue Cross/Shield visits APG June 16

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of the Service Benefit Plan Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit APG June 16. The representative will be available 9 to 11:30 a.m., building 305, room 211 and 12:30 to 1:30

p.m., building E-4520, Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility, Edgewood Area, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

For more information, call

Teri Wright, 410-278-4331, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.)

Heritage

From page 15

their contributions are no less distinguished than Asian-Pacific Americans who serve in today’s war on terrorism.

Huntoon introduced the audience to four Asian-Pacific Americans who had served with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and with the Military Intelligence Service during World War II: Tech. 4th Class Kelly Kuwayama, Tech. 4th Class Terry Shima, Tech. Sgt. Grant Hirabayashi and 1st Lt. Grant Ichikawa.

“In the campaigns of 1944 and 1945, the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team performed literally without peer among U.S. military units in Italy, Germany and France,” he said. “For its size and time in combat – less than two years – those units remain to date the most decorated units in U.S. military history, period, with eighteen thousand individual decorations including twenty-one Medals of Honor, fifty-three Distinguished Service Crosses, five hundred sixty Silver Stars, fifty-two thousand Bronze Stars and nine thousand four hundred eighty six Purple Hearts and no less than seven Presidential Unit Citations.”

Hundreds attend spring tech expo



A mannequin on the Physical Optics Corporations displays Wearable Personal Area Network, WEARNET™, the lightweight harness system featuring electronic wires, cables, VGS and USB connectivity that are fully integrated for the battlefield during the Information Technology Products and Services Expo at Top of the Bay April 29

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

From data center solutions to E-textiles and fiber developments, all this and more was displayed in abundance during the Aberdeen Proving Ground 2009 Spring Technology Products and Services Expo at Top of the Bay April 29.

It was the expo’s 20th anniversary of bringing the latest in office technology and innovations to the installation.

The Corporate Information Office of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and the APG Garrison’s Directorate of Information Management hosted the event.

“There’s anything and everything here for the Soldier,” said Theresa Cavallucci, RDECOM Small Business administrative assistant. “We’re looking to inform small businesses how they can get in on the ground floor.”

To help celebrate the 20th

anniversary, organizers raffled off give-aways every 20 minutes, said organizer Lisa Yurcovic, an RDECOM Information Technology contractor.

“We just wanted to make this special,” she said.

More than 40 exhibitors participated in the event. Along with mainstays like XEROX, IBM, Metro Furniture and AKO, several first-time vendors were in attendance.

Newcomers included Neo Technologies, Inc., a computer hardware maintenance firm from Baltimore that specializes in office equipment, network and graphic printers and document management and workflow solutions. Chief operating officer Steven P. Jones said although the company has contracts with some APG organizations it was happy to network with new faces at the expo.

“Today we’re trying to meet with APG tenants and tell them about our document management options,” Jones said.

These include network, graphic and multifunctional printers, fax machines and their supplies and components, he added.

Neo Technologies services all of its products and offers onsite as well as in-site services. To learn more, visit www.neotechs.com.

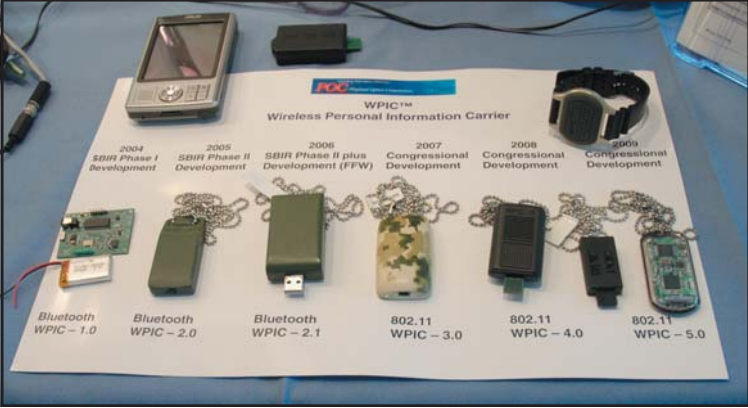
Another newcomer, Physical Optics Corporation, led by business development director Dave Silvestris, displayed the latest in opto-electronic technology including the Wireless Personal Information Carrier, WPIC, which stores a patient’s medical records and gives medical personnel instantaneous access to encrypted medical data through high speed wireless communication.

The WEARNET™ Wearable Personal Area Network display, consisting of a Snapnet™ vest system with its video camera, connectors and GPS tracking capabilities, drew the most attention.

Silvestris said Warfighter



A Tektronix Mixed Signal Oscilloscope, a Thermal Imager, air meter and other test equipment are displayed on the Newark Electronics table.



A display of Wireless Personal Information Carriers, which provides medical personnel instantaneous access to medical data without any physical contact, are displayed by developer Physical Optics Corporation.

survivability is what drives the small business research initiative and that the company has been designing WEARNET™ for the Army’s Special Forces for some time. It also is developing digital dog tags and thumb-sized cameras.

“Eventually the weight of equipment [troops carry] will be reduced to twenty to twenty-five pounds,” he said, adding that that is down from the 50 to 75 pounds troops normally carry.

Future developments in E-textiles will allow for the storage of personal information on special fibers available in a T-shirt, Silvestris said.

“Commercialization can save billions in lost records and it meets the president’s mandate of VA records security,” he said. “It’s all U.S. inventions and U.S. built.”

Newark Electronics, a Chicago-based electronics distribution company displayed a variety of test equipment and electronic engineering components including a Tektronix Mixed Signal Oscilloscope, a thermal imager, air meters and power analyzers.

The systems perform power quality analyses, filter energy and make machinery less expensive to operate, said branch manager Bob Wheatley.

Christopher C. Zukowski, a recently retired RDECOM mathematician who’s been involved with the Expo for 20 years, said he came back to see old friends.

“I thought it would be a courtesy to all the workers, volunteers and exhibitors to say goodbye

and thank you,” he said. “I spent thirty years of my life [on APG] and the expo has really grown. It’s all about getting the word out to those [companies] that have services to offer.”

Visitors seemed impressed with the event.

Fay Walker Banker, a billing official with the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, said she found the Metro furniture display “interesting.”

“I’m looking for new ink cartridges but I like to visit the expo to see what’s out there and how to find it,” Banker said.

Vendors included 3MProjection Systems, ACL Computers/Software, Inc., Alliance Micro, Army Knowledge Online, AVI-SPL, Avocent, Booz Allen Hamilton, Business Machines, CACI, CCS Presentation Systems, CDW-G, Commercial Data Systems, Consulting Services, Inc., Dell, Emtec Federal, EPS Corp., F.A. O’Toole Office Systems, Fujitsu, Graybar, Hartford Computer Group, IBM, Insight Federal, Konica, Minolta Business Solutions, mLINQS, Nelson White Systems, Neo Technologies, New Horizons CLC of Baltimore, Newark, Office Eagle, Panasonic, Perot Systems, Physical Optics Corp., Plantronics, Plug-In Storage, Praxis Engineering, Promark Technology, RDECOM Small Business, RGB Spectrum, Raritan, Red Hat, STG Inc., Survice Engineering, TCG Tektronix, Transition Networks, Tripp Life, Universal Business Technologies, Wey Technology, Wright Line and Xerox.